

*Magazine*



Focus on TEACHING  
USI's top priority

FROM THE EDITOR

Changing profile

With this issue of our magazine focusing on teaching, it is a good time to take a look at the University's changing faculty profile. Since 2000, the total number of faculty has grown by 25 percent, from 534 to 668.

The number of tenured or tenure-track faculty has increased by 34 percent; the number of full-time instructors has increased by 21 percent; and the number of part-time instructors has increased by 20 percent.

During the same time period, the number of courses taught increased by 31 percent. The student/faculty ratio remains the same at approximately 23 to 1.

The percentage of assistant professors has increased from 26 percent to 36 percent, reflecting continued effort to hire new professors to fulfill the ever-growing need for additional faculty.

While we feature some of our newer baccalaureate programs in this issue, we continue to have new academic programs on the horizon. A major in biochemistry was approved in December. See story on page 4. In February, the Indiana Commission on Higher Education approved a major in sport management. As the fourth-largest growth industry in the United States, the sports industry offers many career opportunities. In March, the same commission approved a Master of Arts in Communication degree. Regional employers indicated in 2007 that a master's degree in communication was the second highest need in terms of graduate education. We look forward to adding biochemistry, sport management, and Master of Arts in Communication graduates to our alumni roster.



Betty R. Vawter



USI Magazine is published three times annually by the University of Southern Indiana for its alumni and friends.

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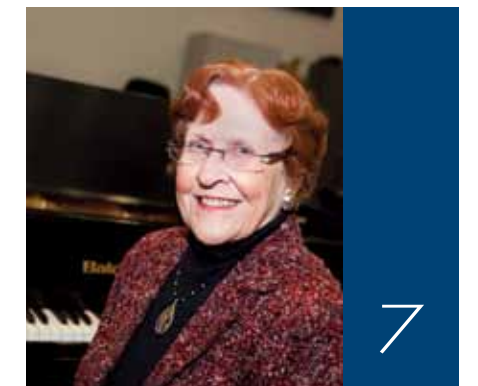
On the Cover

Faculty members teaching in some of USI's newer baccalaureate programs are, from left, (front row) Sherry Boyd and Jane Meyer, (second row) Julie McCullough and Zane Mitchell, and (third row) Patricia Aakhus and Melinda York. See page 9.



Biochemistry major

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Phyllis Grimm

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Jamar Smith

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## Ronald Rochon named provost

Dr. Ronald S. Rochon will assume duties July 1 as provost and vice president for Academic Affairs. The announcement was made in December by USI President Linda L. M. Bennett.

Bennett said, "Dr. Rochon is enthusiastic, energetic, and brings a tremendous level of excitement to the position of provost. He is known nationally and internationally for his work in the area of education and education policy issues. His record of leadership in higher education and his accomplishments in outreach and engagement make him a perfect fit for the University of Southern Indiana."

He brings 14 years of experience to the position, including service as associate vice president for Teacher Education and dean of the School of Education at Buffalo State College, and director and cofounder of the Research Center for Cultural Diversity and Community Renewal at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. He also held the position of director of Master of

Education-Professional Development Program and interim director of the School of Education and associate dean of the College of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Teacher Education during his tenure at the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse. Several roles he held simultaneously.

Rochon is on the Executive Board of the American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education (AACTE) and is the chair-elect for 2010. At Buffalo State College, Dr. Rochon developed, in conjunction with the school faculty, a five-year strategic plan and focused on local, area, national, and international community collaborative efforts. He includes the development of a community technology resource center focused on bridging the elders-youth digital divide and a new K-8 curriculum focus for a school in the city of Buffalo as major accomplishments.

He earned his undergraduate degree in animal science at Tuskegee



Rochon

University, and has a master's degree in animal science, with an emphasis in reproductive physiology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His PhD is from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in educational policy studies, with an emphasis on educational history and policy analysis.

## USI named to national honor roll for community service

The University of Southern Indiana has been named to the 2009 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, evidence of USI's commitment to service and learning.

USI President Linda L. M. Bennett said, "It is an honor for the University to be named to the national honor roll, and I congratulate the faculty and students who gave willingly of their time and talent to improve our community."

USI service learning programs submitted with the community service honor roll application included work with young children enrolled in an early intervention program through a local

school, a partnership with Wesselman Woods Nature Preserve to create a standards-based curriculum for a special event, and a program offering workshops and learning activities related to multicultural literature for an Evansville Boys and Girls Club chapter.

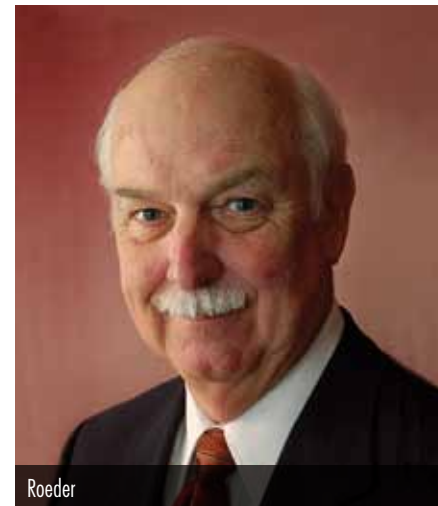
The Corporation for National and Community Service announced the annual Honor Roll award recipients and recognized more than 700 colleges and universities for exemplary, innovative, and effective community service programs. The corporation oversees the Honor Roll in collaboration with the Department of Education, Department



of Housing and Urban Development, Campus Compact, and the American Council on Education.

The Honor Roll was established in 2006 and helps create public awareness about contributions that colleges and their students make to society.

## More than 1,500 degrees will be awarded



Roeder

The University of Southern Indiana Board of Trustees, at their March meeting, approved awarding master's, baccalaureate, and associate degrees to more than 1,500 students who are completing degree requirements this academic year.

Commencement will be held at 3 p.m. on Sunday, May 9, at Roberts Stadium.

The Commencement speaker will be a member of the Class of 1971, USI's first graduating class. Robert C. Roeder, a nationally recognized specialist in human resources management, is principal and senior human capital consultant in the Indianapolis office of Mercer, Inc. He specializes in executive compensation, employee rewards, and human resources management consulting.

A student leader while enrolled at the young campus, Roeder was a founding member of the Student Union Board (now Activities Programming Board) and served as its president for three years. He has been active in the development of the USI Alumni Association and serves on the USI Foundation Board of Directors. During the ceremony he will receive an honorary Doctor of Laws degree.

David and Sarah Huber of Cannelton and Evansville will receive honorary degrees for their University service and support. David Huber served as a University trustee for a decade, chairing the board for two years. Sarah Huber is a member and past chair of the USI/New Harmony Foundation Board. David also served on that board as a representative of the USI trustees. Both will receive a Doctor of Laws degree.



J. David and Sarah Huber

## Barry Schonberger recognized nationally as Diamond Honoree

Barry K. Schonberger, dean of students, has been recognized for his significant and sustained history of service to Student Affairs and to students by a national organization.



Schonberger

The American College Personnel Association (ACPA) has selected him as a 2010 Educational Leadership Foundation Diamond Honoree.

In announcing the award, ACPA said Schonberger continues to be an excellent mentor and role model and is credited with inspiring students to pursue careers in higher education administration.

Schonberger has worked in the field of Student Affairs since joining the University in 1974. As an advisor to student organizations from 1974 to 1989, he saw the number of student clubs and organizations increase from 10 to more than 90. He served as director of Student Activities and coordinator of the University Center from 1979 to 1989. He was named dean of students in 1989.

**Summer classes in three sessions**

**May 10 registration;**  
**May 11 classes begin**

**June 14 registration;**  
**June 15 classes begin**

**July 19 registration;**  
**July 20 classes begin**

[www.usi.edu/summer](http://www.usi.edu/summer)



## BIOCHEMISTRY

A new major to prepare students for high-skill, high-wage careers



Biochemistry major Mandy Ford, center, works in the lab with faculty members Jeff Seyler and Jeannie Collins.

A bachelor's degree program in biochemistry is now available at the University of Southern Indiana. The new program was approved in December by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education.

One of the first students to declare biochemistry as a major is Mandy Ford. She already holds a degree in business and works in the area of global procurement at Mead Johnson Nutrition Company. She said she chose the biochemistry program because it involves the specific study of the chemistry of living systems with reference to carbohydrates, proteins, lipids, and nucleic acids.

"My career goal is to work in research and development focusing on genetics and its relation to pre-diabetes. After graduating from the biochemistry program, I will be prepared for immediate work as a laboratory technician or research assistant," she said.

Sophomore Andy Frazee is considering switching his major from chemistry to biochemistry. He conducts research in the biochemistry area with Dr. Jeannie T. Collins through the

Early Undergraduate Research Program offered by the Pott College of Science and Engineering. Frazee enjoys both biology and chemistry.

"I'm currently on the pre-med track. The biochemistry program would entail the perfect balance of classes to get me ready for the MCAT (Medical College Admission Test)," he said.

### Interdisciplinary program

The interdisciplinary program will provide a strong combination of chemistry and biology experiences to prepare students for scientific careers in industries such as biotechnology, pharmacology, and environmental chemistry and for graduate study or professional schools in medicine, pharmacy, and related fields. With advancing knowledge, biochemistry has become a major field of science offering expanded employment opportunities.

Dr. Scott A. Gordon, dean of the Pott College of Science and Engineering and professor of biology, said, "Students will have the opportunity to gain valuable skills and experiences for a

wide range of high-skill and high-wage careers that exist in the state and region."

Gordon expects the biochemistry program to become a popular choice. A recent analysis indicated that high school students taking the Preliminary SAT exam listed biology and chemistry as their top two intended majors.

### Two course plans

The new degree program offers two course plans. One focuses more on chemistry content and meets guidelines specified by the American Chemistry Society. Dr. Jeffrey W. Seyler, chair of the Department of Chemistry and professor of chemistry, said this track is ideally suited for students interested in graduate and industrial biochemistry research programs.

The other track is a more symmetrical split between chemistry and biology content. Seyler said, "It may be more appealing to students interested in professional programs such as medical or pharmacy school."

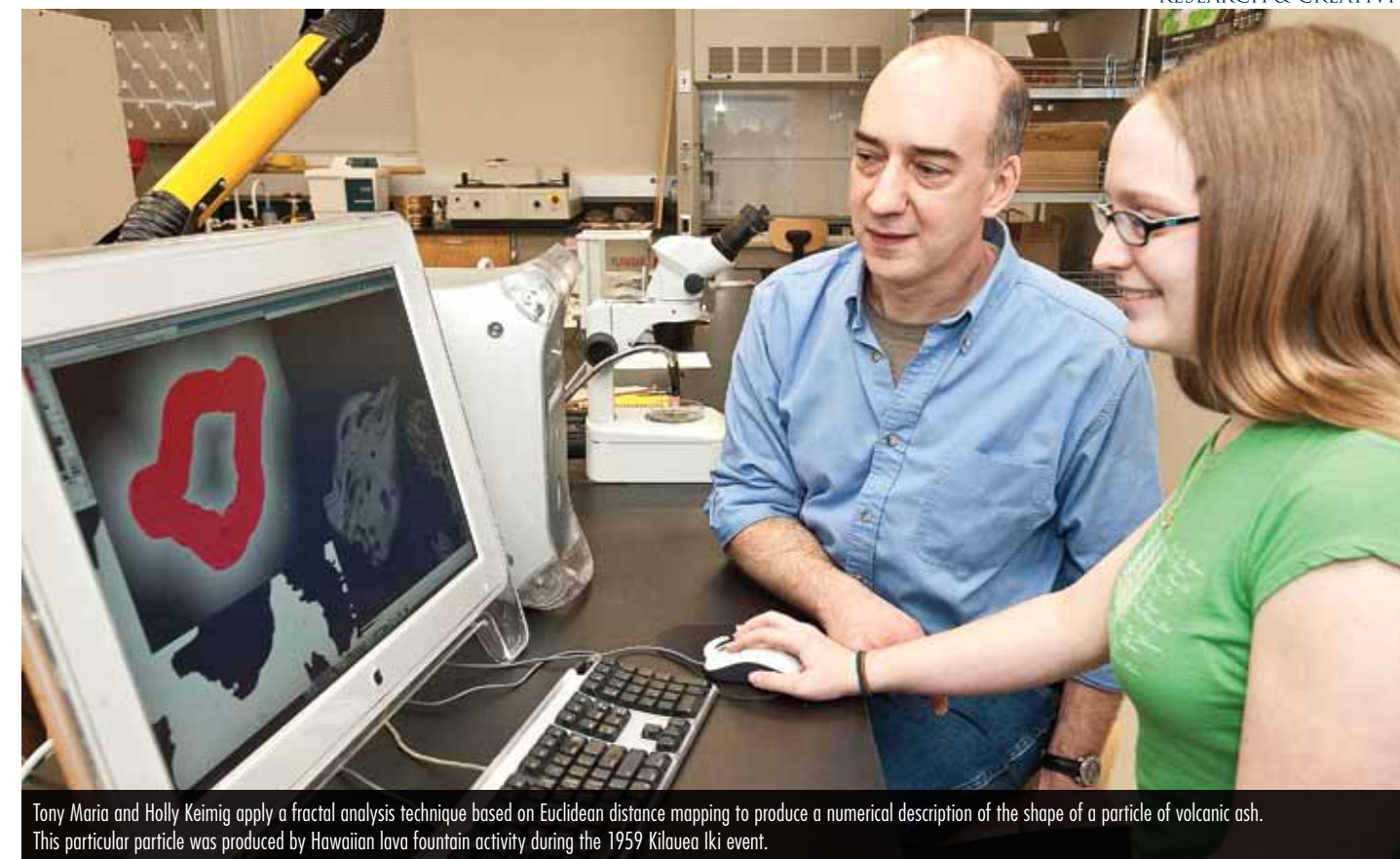
Both tracks include an undergraduate research component.

USI has a long track record of preparing students for success in graduate and professional schools. Dr. Henri R. Maurice, chair of the Department of Biology and associate professor of biology, said, "Our alumni report that the coursework they completed at USI was sufficiently challenging and contained appropriate content for success in medical programs. Medical school faculty have told us that USI students are well prepared."

The Pott College established a concentration in biochemistry five years ago as a foundation for a biochemistry major. Due to the existing courses, the new degree program may have its first graduates as early as spring 2011.

Need for the program was determined by the increased number of students in the biochemistry concentration, inquiries from prospective students, and anticipated increases in employment opportunities in biochemistry-related fields.

## Endeavor Awards fund research, creative work



Tony Maria and Holly Keimig apply a fractal analysis technique based on Euclidean distance mapping to produce a numerical description of the shape of a particle of volcanic ash. This particular particle was produced by Hawaiian lava fountain activity during the 1959 Kilauea Iki event.

Students and faculty receiving grants sponsored by the Endeavor Awards for Research and Creativity program had the opportunity to present their work at the program's first symposium this spring.

Dr. Tony H. Maria, associate professor of geology, received an award for exploring the potential of a new procedure combining scanning electron microscopy (SEM) with fractal geometry to characterize ash deposits produced by different forms of volcanic activity. He said analysis of particle characteristics can be helpful for understanding volcanic events, both ancient and recent.

Holly Keimig, a geology major, assisted with the research. The Endeavor Awards program allows a portion of the award for faculty-written proposals to pay students hourly wages for their assistance.

Keimig said, "I already have earned a bachelor's degree in Spanish and am returning to work on a degree in geology because it is my true passion. I go to school part-time and work full-time. Through the grant, I can work fewer hours and get paid to be a researching geologist. I have had experiences already that many undergraduate students are not able to have."

Keimig spent a week with a collaborator at Michigan Technological University using a scanning electron microscope to capture images of tiny volcanic particles for the study. In the USI lab, she helps Maria wet sieve samples of the ash and analyze them using software to calculate fractal values for each particle from the photographs.

Keimig presented a poster about the research at the campus symposium and also at the North-Central/South-Central spring meeting of the

Geological Society of America in Branson, Missouri.

Several students in international studies have received Endeavor Awards for research this summer in England. The group will examine artifacts related to medicine, magic, and religion at museums in London and Oxford. Patricia Aakhus, program director of international studies, has conducted previous research at these sites. She will accompany the students.

Dr. James M. Durbin, associate professor of geology, directs the Endeavor Awards program. It replaces the Research, Innovation, Scholarship, Creativity (RISC) program. Endeavor provides students awards of up to \$2,500 and faculty awards up to \$4,000. Endeavor presentation awards provide up to \$1,000 for students to travel to present projects at professional and academic meetings.



## Reading and writing teachers in national project

The University of Southern Indiana has been selected as a National Writing Project site and is organizing the River Bend Writing Project to serve the Tri-state area. A federally funded network of more than 200 sites, the National Writing Project brings together exemplary teachers of reading and writing at all grade levels, from kindergarten through college, in regular workshops and an annual five-week summer institute.

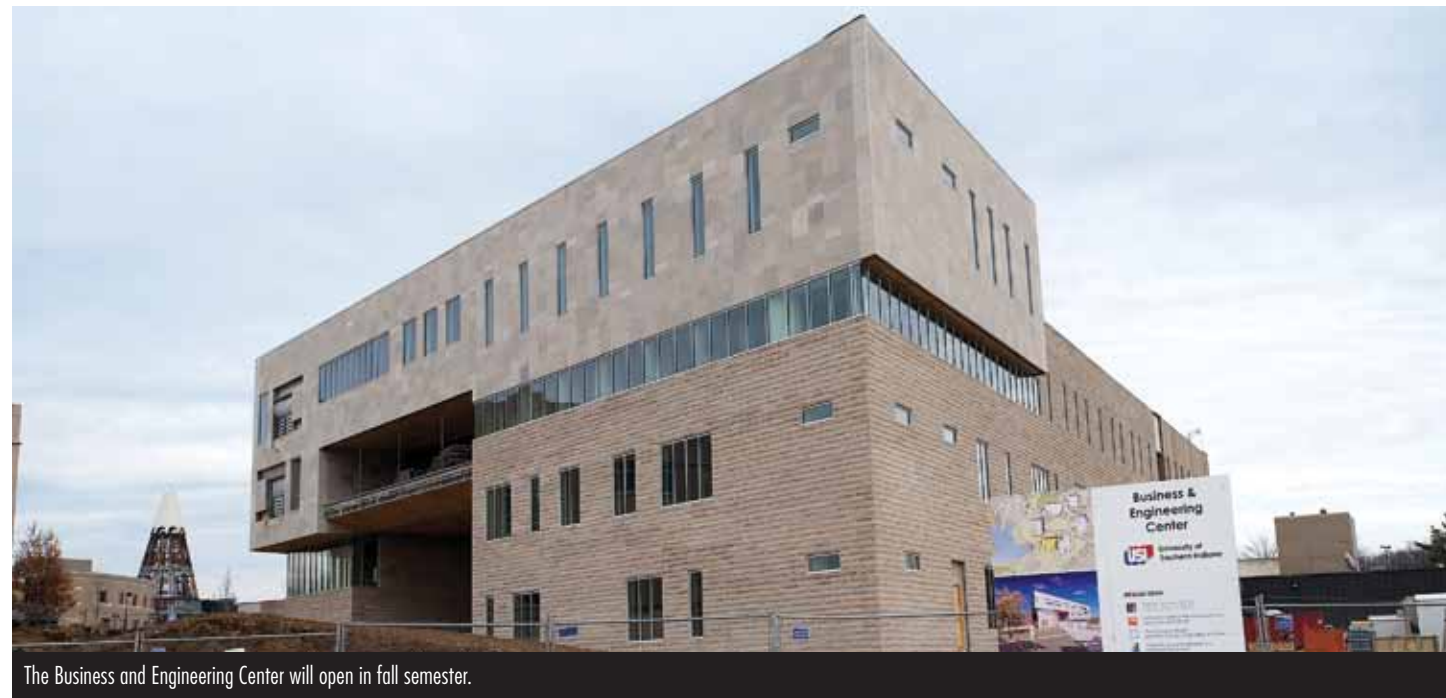
As host for the River Bend Writing Project, USI will provide faculty leadership for the site. Dr. Evon Hawkins, assistant professor of English, will serve as site director. Dr. Susan Gooden, associate professor of teacher education, and Paula

Harmon, instructor of English at F.J. Reitz High School, will act as co-directors.

The River Bend Writing Project, open to all Tri-state teachers and professors, will hold its inaugural invitational summer institute for 20 teachers from May 31-July 1.

Selection as a National Writing Project site is a highly competitive process. USI's College of Liberal Arts and Bower-Suhrheinrich College of Education and Human Services have provided nearly \$40,000 in matching funds to support the new site and the Catholic Diocese schools are USI's official partner.

## Business and Engineering Center nears completion



The Business and Engineering Center will open in fall semester.

## Radio station sounds better with HD

USI's radio station The Edge is broadcasting on a high-definition frequency through a strengthened partnership with the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation. WSWI is being simulcast on EVSC's WPSR-90.7 FM, on that station's -2 subchannel. The upgrade was made in the spring semester.

John Morris, general manager of WSWI, said, "High-definition radio, fairly new in this radio market, offers CD-quality and raises the enjoyment level of our audience."

Listeners need a high-definition radio to receive the higher quality sound.

In recent years the USI station has collaborated with

EVSC to broadcast men's and women's basketball games, and the HD signal upgrade enhances that partnership.

"We are open and excited about this opportunity to work together again," said Mike Reininga, general manager of WPSR.

"The new technology gives USI students an opportunity to study and train on the newest technology," Morris said. In addition to the AM signal, the station streams online; is available on Radiolicious, a smartphone application; and is on HD.

WSWI began in 1981 on a frequency donated by South Central Communications.

## Phyllis Grimm provides leadership gift to expand choral music program

Phyllis R. Grimm, an Evansville resident who has long been active in the city's musical landscape, has provided a leadership gift which will assist the University in expanding the choral music program.

It's music to the ears of Daniel R. Craig, director of the music program and assistant professor of music. He said, "This is the most exciting thing that has happened to the choral music program in my 20 years with the University."

The gift will provide operating and capital support for the choral music program and a music endowment.

Grimm said Craig's excitement matches hers. "I'm expecting great things. It is my hope that this gift will assist the University in the growth and development of the choral music program."

"I'm grateful that I can do this. I feel blessed and my husband did, too. I'm happy to share with the community."

Her husband Dr. William C. H. Grimm, Jr., died in 2008.

In announcing the gift to the USI Foundation board of directors, USI President Linda L. M. Bennett, said, "This leadership gift from Phyllis Grimm will allow the College of Liberal Arts to continue planning for a well-rounded music program. We are grateful for her generosity."

The USI choral music program includes 80 to 100 students in two groups, the Chamber Choir and the Women's Chorus. The Chamber Choir has toured in Poland, Germany, Ireland, Canada, and throughout the United States. The group presents approximately 10 performances a year, including the Madrigal Feaste which celebrated its 40th year in 2009.

Craig and Grimm became acquainted at Old North United Methodist Church, where he is director of music and she is a soprano in the Chancel Choir. She was "blown away" by the choir and joined about two years ago after a year as an appreciative listener. She has sung in church choirs since childhood and for many years was a member of the Community Chorus at the University of Evansville and the Evansville Philharmonic Chorus.

Grimm most recently heard the USI Chamber Choir at Bennett's inauguration in October and at the Madrigal Feaste in December.

Of the Madrigal Feaste she said, "The entire evening was a feast — gastronomically, for the ears, and for the eyes. It was a wonderful performance presented by a well-disciplined group of singers."

Phyllis and Bill Grimm met in chemistry class as students at Syracuse University and soon discovered their mutual enjoyment of music. Upon moving to Evansville in 1960, they involved themselves in cultural opportunities as soon as the Welcome Wagon representative gave them information. They subscribed to the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra as well as performances sponsored by the Musicians' Club.

"Belonging to both those groups rounded out the year perfectly for us," Grimm said.



Daniel Craig welcomes Phyllis Grimm to a Chamber Choir rehearsal.

She is a past board member of the Musicians' Club, the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Evansville Philharmonic Guild.

With her gift, the USI Foundation has established the Dr. William C. H. Grimm and Phyllis R. Grimm Choral Music Program Fund and a music endowment also bearing their names.

Several years ago the Grimms established a scholarship in the USI Foundation. A graduate of Cornell University Medical School, Bill Grimm practiced internal medicine/cardiology with Welborn Clinic until his retirement in 1995. The Dr. William C. H. Grimm, Jr., and Phyllis R. Grimm Endowed Baccalaureate/Doctor of Medicine Scholarship benefits a student who plans a career as a physician.

"That was in my husband's interest, and the vocal realm is in mine," she said. "I can't imagine life without music. I think it touches us at some very deep point within ourselves and contributes to our being better persons."



Foundation supports USI Theatre presentation in regional festival



USI Theatre has received praise for its presentation of Sam Shepard's drama *True West*, directed by Elliot Wasserman, at the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival Region III festival at Saginaw State University in Michigan. It was the USI Theatre program's first year with a participating entry in the regional competition.

Gregg Henry, KCACTF artistic director, said, "The production was a big hit at the festival and the team, despite the exhausting playing schedule, showed the artistic stamina of a well-trained theatre company."

The USI Foundation was pleased to provide financial support for the cast and artistic team to participate.

"Rest assured that Elliot and his *True West* company — from tech staff to design team to actors — 'did you proud' and were great ambassadors for the University of Southern Indiana," Henry said.

*True West* launched USI Theatre's 2009-10 season. Plays selected for the regional festival are examples of the finest university theatre produced that year in each region. Region III includes Wisconsin, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and parts of Ohio. KCACTF is a national theater program involving 18,000 students and a network of more than 600 academic institutions throughout the country.

USI Theatre's production of *True West* was presented at the regional festival.

Support the leaders of tomorrow  
with a gift to the Annual Fund

Your gift to the USI Annual Fund goes to work immediately to provide leadership training for dedicated and deserving students, state-of-the-art technology for classrooms and labs, grants for faculty research, programs and activities that enrich student life, and many more resources.

*"I have benefited from the USI Student Leadership Conference keynote speakers and breakout sessions, including the one this year about marketing yourself and bolstering your resume. The leadership programs at USI have always been helpful to me. I attend them whenever I can. There is always more to learn!"*

**Jared Ell**  
Business Administration and Marketing major  
Master of Rituals and executive board member, Alpha Kappa Psi business fraternity  
College of Business representative, Student Government Association  
AMIGO  
College of Business Living Learning Community Resident Assistant  
Hometown: Evansville, Indiana

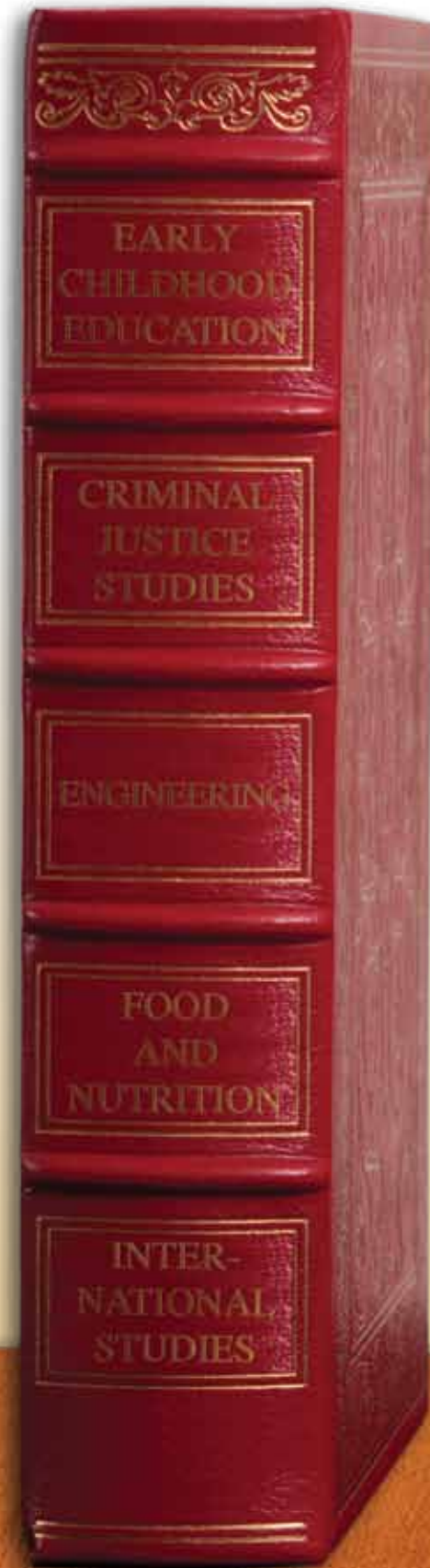


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Teaching is the top priority at the University of Southern Indiana. USI faculty find ways to share their knowledge, motivate, and challenge students with a variety of approaches to prepare them for life beyond the classroom and fulfilling careers.

The stories on the following pages feature a few of the University's newer baccalaureate programs. In these programs we find students designing and building a lunar regolith excavator or building relationships with children in homeless shelters. Some students help parents and their children fight obesity. Others examine topics in the news or hear from professionals about the complex job application process in their fields. Some translate ancient texts or study travel writing online while they study abroad. Like all USI programs, these provide a quality education to meet workforce needs in the Tri-state and beyond. Read on to learn more about the innovative teaching strategies, faculty, students, and graduates in these academic programs.



## Jump-starting young minds EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION



Marybeth Eckleberry, Jared Totsch, and Davida Johnson teach at the first early learning center provided by the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation.



Boyd

The opening last fall of the first early learning center provided by the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation was a source of pride for Dr. Sherry L. Boyd and Dr. Jane E. Meyer, both associate professors of education.

Graduates of the USI bachelor's degree program in early childhood education hold all three teaching positions in the program for 3- to 5-year-olds.

Marybeth Eckleberry '08, Davida Johnson '07, and Jared Totsch '07 teach at the center located at Daniel Wertz Elementary School. EVSC plans an additional early learning center at Culver Elementary School next fall. Greater emphasis on early childhood education is a plank of the school corporation's long-term strategy to boost student achievement.



Meyer

USI has offered a baccalaureate program in early childhood education since fall 2005. It was developed in response to changes in teacher licensing in Indiana. The state instituted a system of licensing by developmental levels. Graduates of the bachelor's program are eligible for the Indiana teaching license, "elementary: primary" and thus eligible for employment in preschools and school settings, kindergarten through third grade. Eighty-nine students have earned a bachelor's degree in the USI program.

Nationally, there has been increased awareness of the importance of the early years and how young children learn differently from older elementary children. An analogy often used to make this point is to think of the child as a house under construction.

"These youngest years are the foundation on which the house will be built," Boyd said. "If you don't put young children on a course with a solid foundation, you are putting them on a wrong course. Because young children love and admire their teachers, teachers have an opportunity to set the stage for how young children will feel about school as they become older."

An important aspect of preparing students to teach is experience in the classroom. Most early childhood education courses have a field component. These experiences range from simply observing a child for a case study to planning and implementing activities with individuals and groups of children.

One innovative approach that prospective teachers learn to use in the classroom is the "project approach." In this approach, young children study one topic in depth across all curriculum areas instead of learning bits of unrelated information. For instance, in Evansville, children might read about the Ohio River, study its dimensions as a mathematics exercise, and explore the creatures that live there as a science activity. The approach makes learning local and tangible for young children.

One course that Meyer teaches is about family, school, and community partnerships.

"Every child comes with a family," she said. "One of the keys to school success for children is family involvement. We want our students to understand that not all families look alike, but all families have strengths."

Meyer's students are involved with many school and community organizations. They plan activities for family nights at schools, prepare goodie bags, help with clothing banks, and participate in literacy events. A new project this semester called Playscapes is in partnership with 4C of Southern Indiana and Welborn Foundation. Students will read, play games, and form relationships with children in homeless shelters.

"I'm always looking for our early childhood students to have new experiences," Meyer said.

The Department of Teacher Education is investigating the possibility of offering more early childhood education courses online. A recent federal mandate requires that 50 percent of HeadStart lead teachers have a bachelor's degree by 2013. Online offerings will help this adult working population get the additional courses they need.

Boyd joined the University in 1989 and Meyer in 1992. Prior to the organization of licensing into developmental levels, students who wanted to focus on the early child obtained an elementary teaching license with a kindergarten endorsement. USI also offers an associate degree in early childhood education.



## Behind the scenes of justice CRIMINAL JUSTICE STUDIES

Dr. Melinda R. York does not get much enjoyment from watching television shows like “CSI: Crime Scene Investigation” or “Law and Order.”

“I’m constantly picking holes in them,” she said.

In real life, crimes aren’t solved in a day and a report on DNA evidence may take a year-and-a-half.

York is an assistant professor in one of the University’s newest bachelor-degree programs, criminal justice studies. Only a year old, the major has 150 students enrolled.

York completed a doctorate in criminal justice last year at Washington State University in Spokane, earning the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in her field, and joined USI in the fall. With four years of teaching experience at the University level, she has definite ideas about reaching students.

“My strategies are not unique to criminal justice studies,” she said. “Everything we teach is grounded in research, science, and theory. Having said that, I think, with this generation, it’s important to bring in the relevant and real-life context. I bring in media stories.”

Last semester as she taught a course on police and society, a situation involving possible police misconduct was much in the news. Students had an opportunity to think about that case in relation to textbook theory.

York also seeks to stimulate class discussion. With an average of only 15 students in her upper-level courses, students tend to come prepared to engage. “They learn from each other,” she said, “and saying things out loud makes them remember more.”

She seeks eye-opening experiences for her students. When Sgt. Doug Schneider of the Evansville Police Department spoke about the hiring process for police officers, students were amazed at its complexity. Applicants must pass a polygraph and background check, complete psychological testing as well as physical fitness tests, and respond to scenarios a police officer might face on a typical day.

Subject areas in criminal justice studies include corrections, policing, law, and criminology, the scientific study of criminal justice. York works hard to ensure that students understand the interconnectedness.

“I can never teach a class the same, because law is constantly evolving,” she said.

Many students in the criminal justice studies major plan to pursue a law degree. In addition to law enforcement occupations, employment areas for graduates include correction and probation officers, criminal investigators, legal assistants, private security, and related social service occupations.

In her teaching, York emphasizes critical analysis and writing. Attorneys write case briefs; police officers write reports.

The Indiana Commission for Higher Education approved the criminal justice studies program in November 2008. It responds to growth in job opportunities and regional workforce demand. A dozen students graduated in 2009 and another 13 are due to complete the program this semester.

Dr. Ronda L. Priest, chair of the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice Studies, said internships are available at a number of law firms, the USI Office of Security, the Evansville Police Department, department-store security offices, probation offices, and counseling centers. Several working professionals in the field assist in teaching courses.

When York accepted the position at USI, she was looking for a university that valued teaching without disregarding research. “I didn’t feel that I had to make a choice here,” she said. “There is a strong emphasis on preparing students for life and their profession. Students are valued, respected, and encouraged at all levels.”

All students in criminal justice studies complete a course in using geographic information systems in crime analysis. York said most universities do not offer this opportunity at the undergraduate level.

“It’s an incredible asset,” York said. “The fact that our students leave with this ability makes them valuable in the job market.”



Melinda York





Zane  
Mitchell

## Solutions for the real world ENGINEERING

One of the most widely anticipated events of an engineering student's years at the University is the presentation of the capstone project. All seniors, either individually or in small teams, complete a semester- or year-long design project working with a faculty mentor. Most projects are real-world projects for outside clients.

Dr. Zane W. Mitchell, chair of the Department of Engineering, likes both the personal and professional aspects of the project presentations held at the end of the semester.

"One of the nicest things about it is that a lot of people, especially family and friends, come to the final project presentations. It's a chance to see what the graduate has done in the field of engineering. And in some cases, the projects build professional relationships that lead to jobs," he said.

Last semester, a group of seniors completed a topographical survey for a potential hydroelectric facility at a recreation area in Dale, Indiana. Another group is continuing a relationship with that client by investigating the sizing of the generator and how it would tie to the electrical grid. Three students in the fall examined drying times for paint for an assembly line at Berry Plastics, an international corporation based in Evansville. A group this semester is designing and building a lunar regolith excavator and will compete with it at the Lunabotics Mining Competition at the Kennedy Space Center in May.

Mitchell brings 26 years of operational and leadership experience from the United States Air Force to his position as well as experience in the management of large international industrial construction projects.

He joined the University in July after retiring as a U.S. Air Force colonel. He was most recently deputy department head for civil and environmental engineering at the Air Force Academy, where he earned an undergraduate degree in civil engineering. He also earned a master's degree in business administration at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and master's and doctoral degrees in civil engineering at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

From July 2004-July 2007 Mitchell was associated with the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, which safeguards the United States and its allies from weapons of mass destruction. At the opening of a chemical weapons destruction facility in Russia in May 2009, U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar singled out Mitchell for his work, saying, "Untold horrors were prevented by your commitment and work ethic."

Mitchell is quick to point out that the individual attention students get in the engineering program gives them an edge.

"Even with the growth we have experienced, class sizes remain small. The student in the class interacts with faculty members who are experts in their field. The same faculty member who teaches the class evaluates the exam, not a grading or teaching assistant."

Now enrolling 250 students, the engineering program began in 2002 in response to regional demand for engineers. It earned accreditation in 2006 (retroactive to October 2004).

The program has 76 graduates. Eighty-six percent are working in the field of engineering. Of those, more than 80 percent are employed in the state of Indiana. Three out of four work in the areas of manufacturing, consulting or contracting, or energy. The average starting salary is \$48,000. The number of faculty has grown from 10 to 16. Seniors exceed national pass rates on the Fundamentals of Engineering exam, a precursor to the Professional Engineers licensing exam.

The USI engineering program leads to a Bachelor of Science in Engineering degree. Students may customize their program with technical electives in four areas: mechatronics or electrical, mechanical, or civil engineering.

"We have the four areas of engineering under one roof. We're working together as a team. That's an asset for the program," Mitchell said.

Students in engineering have many hands-on opportunities, including competition with concrete canoes and Baja cars. Last fall Dr. Glen J. Kissel was interviewed on CNN Headline News about his students' launching of a high-altitude balloon system. The department also is involved in the annual Tri-State Science and Engineering Fair.

The anticipation of moving into a new building is adding excitement to the engineering program. The new Business and Engineering Center will open in the fall, tripling the amount of space available to engineering and opening new opportunities to interact with business students.

"Space will be laid out and spread out in such a fashion that it will facilitate learning," Mitchell said. "We also will have space set aside for students to work on their projects."

Mitchell's love for engineering grew out of an interest in mathematics. "I have always enjoyed working with math, but doing math for the sake of math is only so much fun. It's kind of neat to be able to solve some real problems," he said.



## The fuel for our lives **FOOD AND NUTRITION**

Reading a nutrition label and understanding portion size may seem fundamental, but students in the food and nutrition program know the public still needs to develop some basic knowledge.

Service learning is a distinguishing characteristic of learning in the food and nutrition program. Not only do students gain experience in their field, they create awareness or provide knowledge that helps the individuals they serve.

Dr. Julie McCullough, program director for food and nutrition and associate professor of nutrition, said the students came to realize in a counseling program they provided for 15 students and faculty members that not everyone understands all about nutrition labels, portion size, and calories.

“It was an eye-opener for our students,” she said.

The food and nutrition program was approved in April 2005. Thirty-five students began courses that fall. The major now has 80 students. Nineteen students have graduated in the food-service management and nutrition and wellness tracks.

The dietetics track recently was accorded “Candidacy for Accreditation” by the commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education. Candidacy for Accreditation is a status that allows students who meet graduation requirements to apply for supervised practice programs in dietetics. Students must complete a 1,200-hour supervised practice program before taking the national registration exam. A successful first-site visit provides Candidacy for Accreditation, the initial step for new dietetics education programs.

McCullough said the accreditation decision allows the dietetics track of the food and nutrition program to continue to move forward. The first students in this track could complete the program by spring 2011 and be eligible to apply for supervised practice programs in the United States.

“The application process is highly competitive,” McCullough said. “I encourage students to volunteer, job shadow, or get any practical experience they can to enhance their credentials and demonstrate their commitment before applying.”

Obesity has been a focus of special interest for involvement in service learning. Students are teaching nutrition classes for parents in the Smart Futures Pediatric Weight Management Program sponsored by St. Mary’s Medical Center. They also have helped the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation collect body mass index (BMI) data on kindergarteners.

Food and nutrition students also have gathered BMI data on 500 college students.

Next, McCullough plans for students to prepare grant proposals and develop projects that address issues indicated by their data collection.

Every student in the program also works with Sodexo, the company that operates campus food services. The experience encompasses all aspects of the operation from kitchen to management to catering.

The major in food and nutrition came about in response to requests from students and prospective students and to a survey of area employers. In addition, the USI President’s Task Force on Workforce Development reported in 2000 an increasing demand by regional employers for individuals prepared for jobs as food-service managers.

Alumni of the young program are putting their expertise to work in the region. Leah Dozier ’08 provides nutrition education to children through the Professor Popcorn program sponsored by the Vanderburgh County Cooperative Extension Service. Matt Johnson ’09 is employed by Health Fitness Corporation as a health fitness professional in the corporate fitness center at SABIC Innovative Plastics in Mt. Vernon, Indiana. He majored in both exercise science and food and nutrition.

A graduate and a senior are employed full-time at Mead Johnson Nutrition Company. Tonya Aeschliman ’07 works on regulatory issues related to food labeling. Brittney Drone is involved with international requirements related to food labeling.

“Our connection with Mead Johnson has been great,” McCullough said. “We help with their research. They have hired students on a part-time basis, and their experts have taught in our course on food science.”

Dietetics students will participate in multidisciplinary scenarios in the Clinical Simulation Center located in the Health Professions Center. For instance, they may observe a feeding tube insertion. Or, they may interact with students playing the role of patient, healthcare provider, or family members to gather information about a patient’s food preferences or allergies.

McCullough joined USI in 1999 to begin developing the program in food and nutrition. She entered the field to help people.

“I’m absolutely amazed at the entrepreneurs and the jobs they have created in this field and at the opportunities for service in the community,” she said.



Julie  
McCullough





Patricia  
Aakhus

## Global wisdom INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

International studies was approved as a new major in 2003 to provide an academic program preparing students for careers in the global community. Today the program in the College of Liberal Arts has about 30 graduates and 85 students.

Patricia L. Aakhus, whose interdisciplinary investigations of medieval and Renaissance texts and artifacts have driven her scholarly and creative work for 20 years, delights in working with the international studies program. She is program director.

“Our students tend to be highly motivated, curious, passionate learners with a desire to give to the global community, close to home and all over the globe,” she said. “Their long-term career goals include working in diplomacy, foreign service, education, and law.”

Aakhus has written more than 45 letters of recommendation for students applying for graduate school and grants, with a high rate of success.

“Without doubt the international studies major addresses critical needs in the workplace: diplomacy, security, education, international law, international finance, and economics. The major provides the student with the skills to negotiate within the global community and across cultures with sensitivity, knowledge, and understanding,” she said.

All students complete courses in global economics, international politics, world geography, world civilizations, and cultural anthropology in addition to an interdisciplinary introductory course, a capstone course, and electives.

Because the major is interdisciplinary, many of its core requirements simultaneously fulfill University Core Curriculum requirements, allowing international studies’ majors to add a second major and finish both in four years. Popular choices include political science, English, modern language, and biology.

“Advising is complicated, but I enjoy it. I like to help students design something that will be specifically oriented to their desires and objectives,” Aakhus said.

Alumni of the program include Josh Hartman, a student in international law at Shepard Broad Law Center; Shephali Ghandi, a student at Indiana University School of Medicine; and Taya Carrothers, a student in a master’s program in peace studies and sustainable agriculture at American University. Others are Jill Victor, pursuing a master’s degree in library

science at Indiana University-Purdue University-Indianapolis; Nicole Vernon, teaching French at a high school in Ohio; Brittany Gray, teaching English in Spain; and Audrey Kidwell, teaching English in Burkina Faso with the Peace Corps.

This semester students in a special topics course taught by Aakhus are working on a group translation of the *Picatrix*, a 10th century compendium of philosophy and early science. It has been translated from Arabic into Latin, German, French, and Spanish, but never English. All students in international studies complete at least two years of foreign language courses.

Travel writing is taught online to students who are reading other travel literature and writing essays about their own process of acculturation while they study abroad for a semester.

The International Studies Colloquium, now in its sixth year, is an expression of the major’s mission: to help internationalize the USI community. The 2009 colloquium explored the theme of islands. Aakhus said the colloquium provides a model for students to become lifelong learners, not to stop at the boundaries of a single discipline.

Many students in the program study abroad, an important learning experience that helps them develop confidence and a sense of who they are and how they fit into their own culture and the global community.

Aakhus said the study or travel abroad experience is so crucial that she hopes it will one day be a program requirement. More financial support in the form of travel grants would be necessary to make that possible for all students. The additional cost is primarily “getting there,” she said.

This summer Aakhus and a group of nine students will travel to England to do research in Oxford and London. A future revised summer schedule will allow for more summer courses out of the country.

Aakhus grew up in Los Angeles, where family stories of life and work in countries such as Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, and Chile must have influenced her international focus.

Aakhus is assistant professor of English and program director of the Center for International Studies. She has been in Southern Indiana since 1978 and was first associated with USI in 1987.



## A senior's dream season Jamar Smith and the Eagles (24-3)

Screaming Eagle fans are still thinking about how this year's men's basketball season could have/should have ended. But on the court, senior guard Jamar Smith had a dream season.

Smith kicked his game into high gear in December and never looked

back. He would go on to be named the Daktronics Midwest Region and the Great Lakes Valley Conference Player of the Year after recording 21.6 points and 4.2 three-point field goals per game during the year. (Smith was still waiting to hear about national awards at press time.)



Smith

Smith's efforts also were recognized when he was named the *Division II Bulletin* Player of the Month nationally for December and Great Lakes Valley Conference Player of the Week twice. The numbers posted by Smith in December were astounding — 25.6 points, 4.9 rebounds, 3.9 assists, and 1.3 steals per game in 30 minutes a contest.

Smith earned his second GLVC Player of the Week Award after scoring a career-high 40 points against the University of Illinois at Springfield. The 40 points marked only the second time in USI history that a men's basketball player has reached that plateau and was the most ever in the Physical Activities Center by an Eagle. He scored his 40 points on just 14 field goal attempts (12-14 overall, 8-10 from three-point range) and nine free-throw attempts (8-9).

"It's nice to get awards," Smith said. "But I wish the people who were passing me the ball and helping me get the open shots would get some recognition.

"Everybody on this team knew how valuable they were to the team and how valuable they were to my success. My teammates were competitors, and we were all working toward one goal no matter who got the publicity."

USI reached a number two national ranking by the end of January and had the NCAA's (all three divisions) best record and longest winning streak (23-0) by the middle of February.

Smith finished the season with the USI single-season record for three-point field goals made (108) and set the all-time record for points per game (20.2), breaking a 23-year-old mark set by Stephen Jackson in 1987. He also established a new single-game record for three-point field goals twice (10 versus Maryville University and nine versus Ohio Valley University).

The team closed the year with a 24-3 overall record. USI has reached 24 wins 14 times since 1993-94.

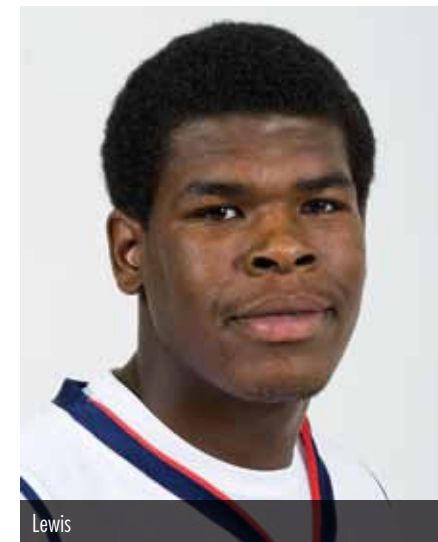
## USI's 'gentle giant' Jeron Lewis

In the midst of one of the most exciting seasons of USI men's basketball, the team lost its "gentle giant" in the middle, senior center Jeron Lewis. Lewis died on January 14, 2010, after collapsing during a game with Kentucky Wesleyan College at the Sportscenter in Owensboro, Kentucky.

Lewis, who stood 6'8", 260 pounds, was having the best season of his USI career, averaging 12.3 points and 8.1 rebounds. He also had five double-doubles in points and rebounds.

In his two years, Lewis played in 48 games for USI and averaged 12.8 points and 5.0 rebounds per contest.

Lewis came to USI last year after spending 2007-08 at Northeastern Junior College (Sterling, Colorado). The native of Ft. Wayne, Indiana, was named the *Ft. Wayne News-Sentinel* Prep Sports



Lewis

2006 Player of the Year as a senior at North Side High School (Ft. Wayne, Indiana). He averaged a double-double

during his senior season, recording 17.9 points and 13.4 rebounds per game.

"Jeron led our team in field goal percentage, and he certainly led our team in rebounds," Head Coach Rodney Watson said, "but Jeron Lewis, more importantly, led the nation in best friends. He made the University of Southern Indiana a better place. He made Evansville a better place, and now he makes heaven a better place."

The USI Foundation continues to partner with Old National Bank for a fund to benefit Lewis' infant son Jamel. Contributions to the education fund may be made at any Old National Bank throughout the country. The USI Foundation also serves as a collection point for donations. Make checks payable to the Jamel Lewis Education Fund in memory of Jeron Lewis.

## GLVC Scholar Athlete of the Year: Ballinger continues historic run

Senior All-American Mary Ballinger has been named the Great Lakes Valley Conference Scholar Athlete of the Year for women's cross country, marking yet another high honor for one of the most accomplished student athletes in the history of Screaming Eagles' athletics.

The honor marks the third time in school history that a USI women's cross country runner has earned the award and the 20th time in school history that a USI student athlete has garnered the award. Heather Cooksey earned the scholar athlete award in 2004 and Allison Shafer-Krieger in 2006.

Throughout her career, Ballinger has balanced academics and athletics and has excelled in both areas.

"Having professors willing to work with me when I have to miss classes has been a big help," Ballinger said. "They allow me to make up tests and assignments that I may have missed or am going to miss due to a meet."

"Time management has been the biggest challenge. When you take 16 hours and have a full season of competition, it can be difficult to balance."

Now in her third year with the women's cross country/track and field program, Ballinger is looking to become the first two-time national champion in the program's history after winning the 3,000-meter steeplechase at the 2009 NCAA II Outdoor Track and Field Championships.

Ballinger, an eight-time All-American in cross country and track, completed a historic cross country career in the fall when she finished fifth at the NCAA II Championships in

Evansville. The food and nutrition major captured her third straight cross country All-America accolade and recorded the highest finish at the national meet in the program's history.

In addition, Ballinger captured the GLVC Championship and was named the GLVC Runner of the Year as she led the Eagles to their second consecutive conference title. She went on to garner All-Region honors as she finished second at the NCAA II Midwest Region Championships, leading the Eagles to a second-place finish as a team.

In March Ballinger competed at the NCAA II Indoor Track and Field Championships where she claimed All-America honors in the mile with an eighth-place finish. The two-time All-American in the indoor 5,000 meters has been named the GLVC Indoor Track Athlete of the Year.

Ballinger will graduate in May 2011. She plans to continue training in hopes of competing at an elite level and running professionally. She also would like to work in corporate wellness.



Ballinger



## Alumni Council 2009-10

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Kevin L. Hammett '90  
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Lauren C. Leshner '04, M'05

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Ryan J. Robertson '01, M'07

Benjamin J. Schmitt '02

John M. Schroder '71, '03

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Sarah M. Wagner '94

Kyle S. Winiger '01

Steven R. Wozniak '97

### University Staff

Nancy L. Johnson '83, M'95  
*Director of Alumni and  
Volunteer Services*

Kira Vaal '03  
*Assistant Director of Alumni  
and Volunteer Services*

Deb C. Schmuck  
*Senior Administrative Assistant*

812/464-1924

[www.usi.edu/alumni](http://www.usi.edu/alumni)

## Alumni Calendar 2010 of Events



- May 8** USI Alumni Association Annual Meeting  
Followed by Class of 2010 Graduation  
Celebration Reception and Dinner  
*USI University Center*
- May 9** USI Spring Commencement  
*3 p.m., Roberts Stadium*
- June 6** Alumni Picnic  
*4-6 p.m., Physical Activities Center Lawn*
- June 12** USI Day at Churchill Downs
- June 17** Indianapolis Chapter After-Hours  
*7 p.m., Rick's Café Boatyard, Indianapolis*
- July 10** USI Night with the Otters  
*6 p.m., picnic and baseball game, Bosse Field*
- August 20** Indianapolis USI Scholarship Golf Scramble  
*Noon, Eagle Creek Golf Club, Indianapolis*
- August 21** Indianapolis Chapter Alumni and Entering Student  
Picnic, Indianapolis Indians baseball game  
*5:30 p.m., Victory Field*
- August 28** USI Day at Holiday World & Splashin' Safari  
*Noon picnic, Santa Claus, Indiana*
- September 17** Alumni Golf Scramble  
*11:30 a.m., Helfrich Hills Golf Course, Evansville*
- October 9-10** Parents & Families Weekend

*All alumni are invited to attend these events.*

### 1970s

**Lee W. Maglinger '77**, psychology, is the  
therapeutic community program director at  
Green River Correctional Complex in  
Central City, Kentucky.

### 1980s

**Gary A. Niemeier '80**, business administration,  
has joined Southwestern Behavioral  
Healthcare as a therapist in its Youth Day  
Treatment program in Evansville.

**John W. Key '82**, finance, was named  
executive vice president, chief credit and  
risk officer at Integra Bank in Evansville.

**Terry S. Culiver '83**, finance, is a portfolio  
manager at Computer Sciences Corporation  
in Evansville.

**Donna Cook Culley '83**, psychology,  
is a clinical psychologist at Southwestern  
Behavioral Healthcare in Evansville.

**Gregory A. Haley '84**, biology, is a  
psychiatrist with his own practice in  
Atlanta, Georgia.

**Theresa Munsterman Simmons '84**,  
psychology, is a rehabilitation services  
manager at Longwood Industries, Inc.  
in Bedford, Virginia.

**Greg S. Wilhite '85**, accounting, is the  
controller at Heritage Petroleum, LLC  
in Evansville.

**Robert L. Blackford '86**, history, is editor  
of The Times Record in Aledo, Illinois.

**Guy L. Davis '87**, electrical engineering  
technology, '03, Post Baccalaureate  
Certificate in Accountancy, has been  
promoted to director of newspaper  
accounting and operation with  
E.W. Scripps in Cincinnati, Ohio.

**David L. Higgins '87**, psychology, is the  
owner of Higgins Counseling Services in  
Providence, Kentucky.

**David S. Jochim '87**, industrial supervision,  
works in technical support at General  
Electric in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Jeff D. Kniese '87**, finance, has been  
named president and chief executive officer  
and a member of the board of directors of  
Greenville Federal in Greenville, Ohio.

**Roger A. Scott '87**, communications, is a  
lieutenant colonel in the United States Air  
Force in Beavercreek, Ohio.

## USI Athletic Hall of Fame inducts seven members



Rowser



Marr



Joergens



Seven individuals were inducted in February into the USI  
Athletic Hall of Fame. The Class of 2010 includes the  
following:

- Deb Schutte '78 (women's basketball 1975-78)
- DeJuan "Spider" Rowser (men's basketball 1974-77)
- Stewart Dowds (men's soccer 1980-84)
- Shelly Scott (women's basketball 1987-92)
- Kevin Brown (baseball 1992-94)
- Dr. Jackson L. Marr (men's tennis coach 1974-95,  
faculty athletic representative 1998-2001) See  
*Faculty/Staff In Memoriam, page 32*
- Bill Joergens (USI Varsity Club 1992-2006, men's  
basketball 1968-69)

Visit [gouieagles.com](http://gouieagles.com) for more information about this  
year's inductees.



Gathering at the 2010 USI Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony were, from left, Stewart Dowds; Kevin Brown; Shelly Scott-Coleman; Alonzo Huby, brother of DeJuan Rowser; Barbara Marr, widow of Dr. Jack Marr; and DeJuan Alonzo Rowser and Darius Emanuel Rowser, sons of DeJuan Rowser.



## 40 years of friendship and service Alpha Omega Psi members preserve personal connections and ties to USI



AOPsi members attended the Greek reunion held during Homecoming weekend. From left are Tom Peake '78, Steven Henderson '77, and Mike DeJean '77.

Friendships forged 40 years ago in a fraternity remain strong today.

Alpha Omega Psi, a social fraternity not affiliated with a national organization, was a visible group on campus from 1969 through 1987. In 1988, the chapter was chartered under Alpha Kappa Lambda, a national fraternity, for a few years before dissolving in the mid-1990s.

Tom Peake '78, who coordinates many of the group's activities, said, "Those years of bonding have kept a core group of AOPsi's together."

Last fall the fraternity celebrated its fortieth anniversary at Burdette Park in Evansville. More than 65 members and spouses attended.

"Having the celebration on the Saturday prior to Fall Festival week provided the opportunity to have our booth sign-up sheets available," Peake said. "Our strombolis, which we have been preparing now for over 20 years and selling from the big purple trailer, are well known to festival goers."

Proceeds from the week help fund the Alpha Omega Psi Alumni Scholarship and the Jack Marr Men's Tennis Alumni Scholarship.

In addition to running the fall festival booth the men get together every year for a trek to Kentucky's Barkley Lake for a three-day golf outing which usually draws about 24 golfers

"We reserve six cabins every year. We golf all day and reminisce about the 'good old days' during the evening hours. It really is a great time and everyone marks their calendars for the event early in the year," Peake said.

The group also meets monthly for lunch at the Deerhead Tavern. A core group of about 15 alumni participate regularly. In August they meet during the annual Germania Maennerchor for bratwurst and pig knuckles.

Dr. Jack Marr, who died recently, was the fraternity's longtime advisor.

"He became much more than that over the years," Peake said. "Whenever we got together and whatever we were doing as an alumni group, Jack was there — golfing, preparing strombolis, meeting for lunch. He became one of the guys. He will be missed at our gatherings."

Marr was honored during the 40th anniversary celebration with a plaque inscribed "In Recognition of a Lifetime of Mentoring to your kids."

Alpha Omega Psi's first home was an old farmhouse on West Mill Road. In 1975, the fraternity relocated to another farmhouse. The new location on Lower Mount Vernon Road was closer to campus and on property owned by Southern Indiana Higher Education. It featured two barns, one of which was converted to a meeting and social-activities area. Peake said the fraternity thrived in this location and was able to grow its membership.

While the fraternity no longer has a chapter on campus, the AOPsi's remain an important part of the past, present, and future of USI.

*Proceeds from the fraternity's Fall Festival booth help fund the Alpha Omega Psi Alumni Scholarship and the Jack Marr Men's Tennis Alumni Scholarship.*

**Michael B. Carroll '88**, accounting, was promoted to chief financial officer at Integra Bank in Evansville.

**Melissa L. Davis '88**, art/psychology, was promoted to public services coordinator for Central Library in Evansville.

**Basem Dugheish '88**, computer information systems/business, is a senior sales executive with Algosabi Services Co., Ltd. in Dammam, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

**Michael T. Galbraith '88**, biology, has taken the position of scientist at Big Rivers Electric Corporation in Henderson, Kentucky.

**Sandra L. Nelson '88**, business administration, '98, Master of Science in Education, is a business teacher at Henderson County High School in Henderson, Kentucky.

**Michelle Stroud Prior '89**, science teaching, is principal at Saint James School in Haubstadt, Indiana.

**Roberta Arosteguy White '89**, communications, was recently promoted to administrative director of the United States Soccer Federation Indiana United Academy in Carmel, Indiana.

**Travis D. White '89**, geology, was promoted to senior marketing director of New Product Device and Delivery at Eli Lilly in Indianapolis.

### 1990s

**Myron L. Foster '91**, business administration, is a sales specialist with Kimball International in Jasper, Indiana.

**Tonya Ours Hurshman '91**, nursing, is a practice manager at Deaconess Clinic in Evansville. She is pursuing a master's degree in nursing at USI.

**Mark B. Stevens '91**, political science, is a public health administrator with Jefferson County Health Department in Mount Vernon, Illinois.

**Mark D. Nettles '92**, business administration, has taken the position of vice president, consumer sales manager at Regions Bank in Paducah, Kentucky.

## Greek alumni attend reunion



Greek alumni gathered for a reunion in the expanded USI Recreation, Fitness, and Wellness Center following the Alumni Homecoming Party in February. Participating sororities and fraternities include Alpha Omega Psi, Alpha Sigma Alpha, Delta Zeta, Gamma Phi Beta, Phi Delta Theta, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, and Sigma Tau Gamma.

**Daniel J. Tobin '92**, business, is a business application analyst with National Office Furniture in Jasper, Indiana.

**Michael R. Halbig '93**, business administration, is a program manager for Infinity Molding and Assembly in Mount Vernon, Indiana.

**Lori Toelle Higgins '93**, elementary education, is a first-grade teacher at Farmersville Elementary School in Mount Vernon, Indiana.

**John D. Wells '93**, communications/English, '01, Master of Science in Education, is a journalism teacher and adviser of student publications at F.J. Reitz High School in Evansville. He also teaches English composition and world literature classes at Ivy Tech Community College.

**Bryan W. Barber '94**, marketing, has joined Harrison College as a high school admissions representative in Evansville.

**Jason T. Smith '94**, biophysics, '00, geology, has taken the position of senior geologist with Core Minerals Operating in Evansville.

**Douglas J. Watson '94**, business administration, is the owner of PH Web LLC in Atlanta, Georgia.

**David A. Forche '95**, political science, has been promoted to senior business analyst at Card Management Corporation in Evansville.

**Michelle Pile Bauman '96**, elementary education, is the senior business banking relationship manager for Key Bank in Elkhart, Indiana.

**Layne D. Foote '96**, communications, is a telecommunications consultant and has opened Virtual Telecomm LLC in Evansville.

**Prudence Pekinpaugh Hoesli '96**, business administration, is a sales representative for Directions Promotions in Tell City, Indiana.

**Robert P. Humphrey '96**, general science, is the director of application systems at Q Services Company in Evansville. He is working on a master's degree in business administration at USI.

**Joan E. Scott '96**, elementary education, was appointed manager of Deaconess Children's Center in Evansville.



**Shannon Martin Hile '97**, early childhood education, has been promoted to senior admission counselor in the Office of Admission at USI.

**Stephanie Booth Shane '97**, psychology, '04, elementary education, is a teacher at Saint Wendel School in Evansville.

**John G. Aldenderfer '98**, communications, was promoted to project management lead at Card Management Corporation in Evansville.

**Wendy Knipe Bredhold '98**, sociology, has been promoted to media specialist in News and Information Services at USI.

**Christopher C. Eger '98**, accounting, is a senior analyst for ICL Performance Products LP in St. Louis, Missouri.

**John A. Farless '98**, communications, is the associate director of communications at Saint Meinrad Archabbey and School of Theology in Saint Meinrad, Indiana.

## April Hensley: from Big Creek to Baja



Research intern April Hensley studies the octopus population in the waters off Baja peninsula.

April Hensley '09 worked on a survey of fishes in Posey County's Big Creek as a student. Now she is pursuing field research in the waters off Mexico's Baja peninsula.

A biology graduate, Hensley is a research intern with The School for Field Studies, an environmental study-abroad program. During the yearlong experience, she is based at the Center for Coastal Studies, located on Bahia Magdalena (Magdalena Bay) on the outskirts of the fishing village of Puerto San Carlos on the west coast of the Baja peninsula.

She serves as a research assistant to professors at the center and as a mentor to undergraduate students from

universities throughout the country. The fall and spring semester programs focus on conserving marine resources and coastal ecosystems. The summer program addresses conservation of coastal diversity and threatened marine turtles.

"I have worked on research projects that include monitoring turtle populations, getting to tag and release my first adult sea turtle and dig up a nest of sea turtle hatchlings and release them as well. We also are working with the Mexican government to establish a closed season for fishing blue crabs," she said.

One of the most exciting aspects of the experience for Hensley is the

opportunity to develop her own research project under the supervision of the program director. She is studying the octopus population to determine how it is affected by pollution in the bay. Her research also will involve the abalone population. The abalone catch is an important commercial resource for the nearby town.

She will participate in monitoring and cataloging gray whales in and around the bay.

Hensley said her experience in research at USI with Dr. James H. Bandoli, professor of biology, prepared her for the work in Mexico. Bandoli and students completed the fish survey as part of an assessment of the Big Creek drainage, which has been impacted by agricultural and petroleum activities.

"It gave me a great opportunity to learn how field research is accomplished both in the field and in the lab. This study gave me the confidence to apply to the program," she said.

After the internship, Hensley will continue to pursue other research and job openings in the field of animal husbandry and species/habitat conversation. She also is exploring opportunities to complete a doctorate.

"Ultimately I would like to be part of a team that protects and enhances the chances of survival of endangered and threatened species. Or, I would love the opportunity to work in an animal rehab center," she said.

Hensley was a sprinter on the USI women's track team in 2007 and 2008.

## Bryan Harper promotes Vikings football to Minnesota troops stationed in Iraq

Bryan Harper '96 took a little bit of home recently to Minnesota National Guard troops stationed in Iraq.

A communications major, Harper is senior marketing manager - broadcasting and entertainment for the Minnesota Vikings. He and former Vikings player Mike Morris embedded with the 34th Infantry "Red Bulls" of the Minnesota National Guard in Basra during the trip.

After flying from Minneapolis to Kuwait City, the two took a heavily armored vehicle from Ali Al Saleem Air Base in Kuwait to COB (Contingency Operating Base) Basra in Iraq.

"We hosted Mike's morning radio show live, participated in call-in segments, and did a segment for our TV show," Harper said.

They also hosted a viewing party for the Viking-Bengals game. More than 300 Guard members watched the game, which aired on American Forces Network. Harper and Morris also hosted the postgame radio show live.

Observing and sampling life on the base — from learning what to do in case of a vehicle rollover to handling weapons — was an eye-opening experience for Harper. He found many of the

troops glad to have a chance to talk football.

Harper is responsible for content on vikings.com; "Vikings GamePlan," the in-season television show; and "Vikings Weekly," a year-round television show. He also handles in-stadium entertainment and special-event programming.

Recently he was named executive producer of the new Vikings Entertainment Network. He also is responsible for the mascot, cheerleader, and drum-line programs.

"It's a blast!" he said.

Harper is completing his sixth season with the Vikings after one season with International Speedway Corporation, three with the Jacksonville Jaguars, and three with the Pittsburgh Pirates. He got his start in



Bryan Harper, left, and Mike Morris wore protective gear when they embedded with Minnesota National Guard Troops in Iraq.

sports marketing at USI, helping Bruce Pearl, a former head coach of men's basketball, increase student involvement at basketball games. He also was a member of the USI basketball stat crew for both the men's and women's teams.

The Vikings will mark their fiftieth season next year. As chair of the planning committee, Harper already is preparing for the celebration.

**Connie A. Haralson '98**, Master of Business Administration, has joined Ivy Tech Community College as an evening supervisor in Evansville.

**Marc J. Hostetter '98**, biology, is a loan officer at Kirkston Mortgage Lending in Evansville.

**Richard J. Kaczor '98**, communications, is an operations manager for West Penn Diesel in Shelocta, Pennsylvania.

**Drew E. Bailey '99**, business administration, '04, Master of Business Administration, has been promoted to director of finance and investments at Vectren Enterprises in Evansville.

**Jason K. Burchard '99**, accounting, is an accountant with the Department of Veterans Affairs in Gainesville, Florida.

**Debra K. Duncan '99**, business administration, has joined Precision Payroll Inc. as a human resource consultant in Evansville.

**Susan Weber Gahagan '99**, social work, was ordained as a deacon in the Episcopal Church on October 28, 2009, in Savannah, Georgia.

**Amy Stetler Harper '99**, accounting, is an accountant at the Smith Office in Lafayette, Indiana.

**Chad A. Smith '99**, social science teaching, is a teacher/coach at Northview High School in Brazil, Indiana.

## 2000s

**Todd W. Chase '00**, business administration, has been promoted to an officer and manager of application development at Card Management Corporation in Evansville.

**Amanda J. Miller '00**, Master of Social Work, recently received a doctorate in sociology from Ohio State University and accepted a position as assistant professor at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond, Oklahoma.

**Jason N. Roy '00**, history, '05, social science teaching, is a special education teacher at Boonville High School in Boonville, Indiana.



**Jon M. Adams '01**, physical education, is the athletic director at Gibson Southern High School in Fort Branch, Indiana.

**Jill M. Bertke '01**, finance, is a partner and financial consultant for Palladium Wealth Management in Haymarket, Virginia.

**Jean Cunningham Blanton '01**, political science/public relations and advertising, has been promoted to partner at Ziemer, Stayman, Weitzel & Shoulders LLP in Evansville.

**Michael D. Corley '01**, sociology, is the food and beverage director/executive chef at Bowling Green Country Club in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

**Lindsay N. Crist '01**, psychology, recently accepted a position as project manager in pediatric research at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at University of California—Los Angeles.

**Rick L. Heldt '01**, Master of Business Administration, has been promoted to senior vice president/controller at First Federal Savings Bank in Evansville.

**Martha Ashworth Alhieh '02**, history, is teaching Arabic at USI and pursuing a doctorate in anthropology and near eastern languages and cultures at Indiana University.

**Karese Peebles Johnson '02**, business administration, is a route process administrator at Coca Cola Enterprises in Evansville.

**Matt T. Krack '02**, art, is the administrative assistant of high school review for the NCAA Eligibility Center in Indianapolis.

**Benjamin J. Schmitt '02**, business administration, is an officer/bank manager for Integra Bank in Evansville.

**Brandi Ponsler Schwartz '02**, art/public relations and advertising, '08, Master of Public Administration, has taken the position of marketing coordinator in the division of Extended Services at USI.

**Elizabeth Shappell Wood '02**, communications, is the human resources director at Service Tool & Plastics, Inc. in Henderson, Kentucky.

**Donella Brandle Abell '03**, computer information systems, was promoted to senior project manager at Card Management Corporation in Evansville.

**Erika Weaver Buse '03**, accounting, was promoted to financial reporting assistant vice president at Integra Bank in Evansville.

**James W. Gladish '03**, health services, is a doctor of osteopathic medicine at SIU Family Medicine in Carbondale, Illinois.

**Shannon L. Hurt '03**, sociology, is a membership and publications manager for the Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana in Evansville.

**John A. Kuntz '03**, biology, is a quality assurance manager for AmeriQual Foods Inc., in Evansville.

**Kira Crowdus Vaal '03**, communications, has joined Alumni and Volunteer Services as assistant director at USI.

**Katrina R. Garner '04**, computer information systems, is an accounting assistant at Accuride Corporation in Henderson, Kentucky.

**Sarah Holley Kirkman '04**, radiologic imaging science, is a radiologic technologist at Urgent Health Medical Center in New Albany, Indiana.

**Suzanne Stratman Knight '04**, social work, '07, Master of Social Work, is a social worker at Delaware Elementary in Evansville.

**Amber N. Carrier '05**, biophysics, is a graduate teaching assistant at the University of Louisville Department of Biology in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Samuel B. Lingo '05**, political science, was appointed by Crosspointe Insurance to be a benefits adviser and sales agent for health and life insurance in Evansville.

**Nicholas J. Peregoy '05**, finance, is a financial advisor for Merrill Lynch in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Ria DeCamp Baker '06**, biology, has been promoted to clinical study coordinator at Covance in Evansville.

**Kristin R. Bigsby '06**, management, is an operations manager for First Federal Savings Bank in Evansville.

**Kenneth L. Clark '06**, public relations and advertising, completed a Master of Public Affairs at Indiana University in May and began working as a staff consultant for Crowe Horwath LLP in Indianapolis.

**Veronica F. Fisher '06**, health services, received a Master of Health Administration from Indiana University in May 2009. She is a quality analyst at Harrison County Hospital in Corydon, Indiana.

**Molly E. Gilland '06**, political science/psychology, is a first-year law student at Indiana University School of Law in Indianapolis.

**Corey R. Goers '06**, marketing, is an insurance agent with Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance in Indianapolis.

**Lindsey K. Mitchell '06**, public relations and advertising, is a marketing specialist and district marketing coordinator for Sodexo Campus Services at USI.

**Joshua G. Vaal '06**, social work, '07, Master of Social Work, has joined AmeriStamp Sign-A-Rama in business development in Evansville.

**Timothy W. Coudret '07**, business administration, has joined Heritage Federal Credit Union as the information center supervisor in Newburgh, Indiana.

**Jason L. Goodwin '07**, social science teaching, is a social studies teacher at Kofa High School in Yuma, Arizona. He also is the assistant girls' basketball coach, assistant junior varsity baseball coach, Junior State of America club sponsor, and common assessments team member for the Yuma Union High School District.

**William H. Groves '07**, communications, has joined Ivy Tech Community College as the corporate services manager in Evansville.

**Kristy Smiley Robertson '07**, nursing, '09, Master of Science in Nursing, has taken the position of nurse practitioner, pre-anesthesia at Owensboro Medical Health System in Owensboro, Kentucky.

**Robert A. Saladin '07**, sociology, is an independent agent/owner with Farmers Insurance in Lafayette, Indiana.

## Alumni meet USI President Linda Bennett



Tim Starks II '99, left, and Tony Greubel '92, standing, meet with President Linda L. M. Bennett at an alumni gathering in Washington, D.C. Also pictured are Nathaniel Rivers '03, son William, and wife Jodi '03.

**Ashley N. Wheatley '07**, elementary education, is an instructional assistant at Perry County Learning Academy in Tell City, Indiana.

**Donald G. Burns '08**, history, has been promoted to assistant manager at Toyota Motor Manufacturing in Princeton, Indiana.

**Rhonda Young Darnell '08**, Master of Science in Nursing, is a family nurse practitioner at Marshall County Family Medical in Benton, Kentucky.

**Meagan L. Decker '08**, elementary education, was recently promoted to assistant site supervisor for the Prairie Trace Elementary Extended School Enrichment Program in Carmel, Indiana.

**Amber Norman Embrey '08**, public relations and advertising, was promoted to marketing coordinator at First Federal Savings Bank in Evansville.

**S. Yancey Ferguson '08**, social work, '09, Master of Social Work, has joined Southwestern Behavioral Healthcare, Inc. as an outpatient therapist in Boonville, Indiana.

**Gregory M. Horn '08**, management, is the executive manager for Target Corporation in Evansville.

**Cory M. Julian '08**, physical education, was hired recently to teach Spanish and coach baseball at Reitz High School in Evansville.

**Stacy A. Kasmier '08**, biology, is a zookeeper at Metro Richmond Zoo in Moseley, Virginia.

**Vonece White Little '08**, health services, graduated with a Master of Business Administration with a specialization in healthcare management from Campbellsville University in October 2009. She has taken the position of online faculty member for Grantham University in Kansas City, Missouri.

**Adam J. Maday '08**, political science, is a second-year law student at Valparaiso University School of Law in Valparaiso, Indiana. He will be a Juris Doctor Candidate in 2011.

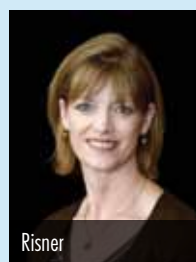
**Andrew T McGuire '08**, accounting, graduated from the Master of Business Administration program at Ball State University in July 2009. He has joined PricewaterhouseCoopers as an associate in Indianapolis.

**Robert D. Roads '08**, physical education teaching, is a cross country coach at Vincennes Rivet High School in Vincennes, Indiana. The Pike Central Cross Country Regional on October 17, 2009, was the first time Vincennes Rivet competed as a team in the Indiana High School Athletic Association Cross Country regionals. In his first year as head coach, Roads guided the Rivet Patriots to a fifth-place finish in the sectionals and a close sixth-place finish in regionals.

## Entrepreneur Sheri Risner launches MealEssence.com

A former accounting student who articulated an award-winning entrepreneurial idea in a student competition continues to develop her concept.

Sheri Risner has launched MealEssence.com, an online tool for saving time and money at the grocery store and at home. In 2007, Risner won third place in the Business Idea Competition sponsored by the College of Business and placed first in the statewide Elevator Pitch Competition.



"After two-and-a-half years, we are up and running offering a meal-planning solution to busy families," Risner said. "We are focusing most of our efforts on marketing and, more specifically, social networking."

The web site offers blogs, tips, a calendar to manage recipes and generate shopping lists, cooking ideas, and other information related to meal planning. She plans to enhance the site with nutrition information and health-specific diets in the next phase of improvements.

Risner's original plan for a business was to use barcode scanning for home food-inventory management. A nontraditional student from Newburgh, Indiana, she created the idea from her own experience managing a household. As technology moves forward, Risner hopes to add barcode scanning to the offering.



**Adam J. Vetter '08**, finance, was commissioned on March 20, 2009, as an officer in the United States Marine Corps in Quantico, Virginia.

**Joshua W. Ackerman '09**, computer science, has taken the position of information technology analyst with the Energy Systems Group in Newburgh, Indiana.

**Janell C. Begle '09**, business education, is a teacher at Adams Central Community Schools in Monroe, Indiana.

**Aafke S. Bleecker '09**, English, has taken the position of eighth-grade language arts teacher at Harwood Middle School in Evansville.

**Wendi M. Conwell '09**, mathematics, has taken the position of actuary analyst at Humana in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Emiley A. Esche '09**, management, has joined Mead Johnson Nutrition as a staffing coordinator in Evansville.

**Nicholas A. Ficklin '09**, accounting, has taken the position of staff accountant at Blue & Co., LLC in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Cody A. Fulford '09**, radiologic imaging science, has taken the position of district sales manager for Cook Medical in Houston, Texas.

**Brandy M. McFetridge '09**, marketing, accepted the position of medical sales representative at Orbit Medical in St. Louis, Missouri.

**Brian J. Marchino '09**, accounting and professional services, has joined Harding Shymanski & Co., as a staff accountant in Evansville.

**Sarah J. Munjas '09**, public relations and advertising, is pursuing a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies degree at USI.

**Justin A. Olson '09**, communications, is a recruiting coordinator for the National Collegiate Scouting Association in Chicago.

**Kyle L. Reel '09**, social work, has taken the position of case manager for Southwestern Behavioral Healthcare in Evansville.

**Emily M. Shetler '09**, accounting and professional services, has joined Harding Shymanski & Co., as a staff accountant in Evansville.

**Greg L. Simmons '09**, communications, has joined Kenny Kent Toyota Lexus Scion as a sales associate in Evansville.

**Lindsay L. Strotman '09**, management, has taken the position of family case manager with the Department of Child Services in Jasper, Indiana.

## Marriages

**Erin R. Deicken '99**, communications, and Nicholas Wood, November 1, 2009

**Carrie A. Leach '01**, elementary education, and Jason Farrar, June 13, 2009

**Abby E. Fisher '03**, elementary education, and Andy Steffen, November 8, 2008

**Nichol D. Vittitow '03**, elementary education, and Jason Hurd, March 28, 2009

**Katie E. Hills '05**, elementary education, and Luke Whetstone, October 3, 2009

**Kendall R. Martin '05**, public relations and advertising, and Danielle Brown, March 7, 2009

**Caitlin E. Bradley '07**, psychology, and Joshua Dunnewold, September 19, 2009

**Allisha D. Gaynor '07**, public relations and advertising, and Eric Christianson, October 17, 2009

**Lacey R. Hall '07**, public relations and advertising, Adam Norman, July 18, 2009

**Wendy L. Brakie '08**, psychology, and Anthony Gumbel, October 10, 2009

**Mandy R. Cardwell '09**, accounting and professional services, and DeRan Chinn, March 14, 2009

**Mark O. Reeder '09**, management, and **Cassandra L. Stading '09**, physical education, August 1, 2009

## Births

**Lynn Hildenbrand Preston '95**, elementary education, and John, daughter, Lexi Ann, January 6, 2010

**Sharon Beckman Shumate '95**, communications, and Beau, son, Luke Ryan, June 22, 2009

**Rachel Naville Lewis '96**, communications, and Darren, son, Parker James, November 26, 2009

**Stacey Dunn Sharples '96**, French/German, and Jason, son, Chase Ashton, August 5, 2009

**Stephanie Schaefer Coy '98**, sociology, and Bruce, daughter, Abigail Rose, October 20, 2009

**Chasity Kennedy Gouard '98**, communications, and **Stanley Gouard '00**, communications, daughter, Kennedy Noelle, December 14, 2009

**Jana Bertke Tsai '98**, biology, and Thomas, daughters, Emily Victoria and Ashley Josephine, October 29, 2009

**Jennifer Hough Dunn '99**, sociology, and **David A. Dunn '00**, business administration, daughter, Addie Rose, September 18, 2009

**Chace Striby Henn '99**, health services, and Luke, daughter, Ainsley Kallan, August 5, 2009

**Chris D. Holstein '99**, business administration, and Lyren, daughter, Sophie, June 10, 2009

**Ryan Jesop '99**, elementary education, and Casie, daughter, Ashlyn Grace, December 1, 2009

**Allison Schultz McGinley '99**, psychology, and **James M. McGinley '99**, political science, daughter, Frances Clare, August 9, 2009

**Morris D. Stephens '99**, general science, and Allison, daughter, Maya Grace, June 10, 2007

**Kelly Bishop Reisinger '99**, computer information systems, '05, Master of Business Administration, and Darren, son, Zachary Allen, August 28, 2009

**Robert W. Bowen II '01**, business administration, and Dawn, daughter, Molly Kay, December 29, 2009

## Governor presents Tomorrow's Leader award to Sam Bowles



Sam Bowles, third from left, accepts the award during a ceremony at the Indiana Statehouse.

Governor Mitch Daniels and the Indiana Humanities Council have presented Samuel C. Bowles '08 with the 2009 Governor's Award for Tomorrow's Leaders. Established in 2003, the award honors Hoosiers ages 19 to 29 who strive for and attain excellence as entrepreneurial leaders, volunteers, and scholars.

Bowles, 24, was recognized for his leadership in establishing a Youth in Philanthropy program at Crawford County High School. He is a board member, the youngest ever, of the Crawford County Community Foundation. The foundation received a substantial gift several years ago to establish a Youth in Philanthropy program.

"They needed someone to make it happen, and that's what I'm trying to do," Bowles said. "The program will not only be a general leadership and character education program but also will expose students to philanthropy and a grant cycle. The students will create grant applications and criteria, review applicants, and award grants to worthy student and community organizations."

Bowles was one of 12 individuals to receive the Tomorrow's Leader award. Each honoree received \$1,000, courtesy of Vectren Corporation, to be used as an educational scholarship or donated to a charity of the honoree's choice.

As a student, Bowles worked as a ministry associate at his hometown church — Hillview Christian Church in Marengo, Indiana. He serves the church now as associate minister — creative arts. A *summa cum laude* graduate, Bowles majored in English/secondary education.

## Jaclyn Dumond receives Continuing Educator Award

Jaclyn Dumond M'08 has received the 2009 Mid-America Region Professional Continuing Educator Award from the University Continuing Education Association (UCEA). Presented at the UCEA Mid-America/Great Plains conference in LaCrosse, Wisconsin, the award recognizes the scholarship, leadership, and contributions of a person who has entered the profession in the last five to 10 years.

Dumond has been employed in USI Extended Services since 2004. She is program coordinator for the Center for Education Services and Partnerships.

She earned a Master of Public Administration degree from USI.



Dumond

## Tracy Zeller: Insights on successfully minding a business

Tracy Zeller '89 recently shared insights from her experience as an accountant, entrepreneur, and marketer in a presentation called "Mind Your Own Business." She was alumna in residence for the College of Business.

An accounting graduate, Zeller is owner of Tracy Zeller Jewelry in Evansville. She opened the business in 2004 and has since added a home decor division, a marketing division, and a style division that includes shoes and a line of handbags and accessories.

Zeller received the 2009 "Woman of Action" Award from ANEW (A Network of Evansville Women). She was named 2009 Entrepreneur of the Year by the Chamber of Commerce of Southwest Indiana.



Tracy Zeller



Elizabeth Fuhrman Bragg '01, art, and Jason A. Bragg '03, mechanical engineering technology, son, Logan Edgar, July 13, 2009

Dana Kissel Ketcham '01, accounting, and Brent C. Ketcham '99, chemistry, son, Andrew Orin, August 5, 2009

Rachel Lee Lawmaster '01, business administration, and Lee, daughter, Amelia Josephine, October 13, 2009

Cynthia Brown Townsend '01, health services, and James A. Townsend '00, sociology, son, Blake Andrew, October 20, 2009

Heather Barnett Payne '02, sociology, and Anthony, son, Gavin Scott, September 3, 2009

Amanda Miller Smith '02, elementary education, '05, Master in Education, and Jason C. Smith '99, sociology, son, Jackson Courtney, August 27, 2009

Katie Will Stoneberger '02, dental hygiene, and Adam, Ella Rose, September 17, 2009

Laura Williams Taylor '02, social work, '03, Master of Social Work, and Chris E. Taylor '01, social work, '07, Master of Social Work, son, Vance Xavier, September 9, 2009

Noriko Ikeda Baker '03, business administration, and David, son, Luke Jaden, November 6, 2009

Brian Branson '03, public relations and advertising, and Jody, son, Darret Brian, November 11, 2009

Karen Schnellenberger Gerhart '03, English/communications, '08, Master in Education, and Keith, son, Andrew Levi, June 9, 2009

Eric S. Jost '03, accounting, '04, Master in Accountancy, and Amanda Lopp Jost '03, health services/dental hygiene, son, Dawson James, June 4, 2009

Kathryn Little Wertman '03, elementary education, and Nathan E. Wertman '04, elementary education, daughter, Chloe Marie, September 8, 2009

Summer Schmuck Wilderman M'03, Master of Social Work, and Roger A. Wilderman '04, psychology, daughter, Bailey Dawn, December 27, 2009

Nicole Singer Bova '04, communications, and Joseph, daughter, Madelyn Joann, March 14, 2009

Tricia Hessel Mouser '04, political science/journalism and computer publishing, and Scott, daughter, Lucy Jane, August 5, 2009

Anna Woosley Waters '04, public relations, and Nicholas, son, Reid Allen, daughter, Pressley Elizabeth, November 16, 2009

Ashley VanMeter Burns '05, elementary education, and Joshua, son Carson Lee, October 15, 2009

## In Memoriam

Tommy L. Stallman '74, management, of Fairfield, Ohio, died November 22, 2009. He was a veteran of the United States Army and served as a member of the American Legion and the VFW. Stallman was employed at General Electric for 27 years.

William D. Steiner '74, marketing, of Sacramento, California, died October 5, 2009. He served in the Air Force and was stationed in Great Falls, Montana. He graduated from USI before starting a career as a media relations specialist with the Internal Revenue Service in Sacramento, California.

Kathy Kochersperger Cunningham '76, accounting, of Greenwood, Indiana, died November 1, 2009. She was a retired employee of Cellular One.

Janice Wagoner Brenton '77, accounting, of Newburgh, Indiana, died October 7, 2009. She was the controller for Electronics Research.

Harry "David" Elmeier '77, sociology, of Evansville, died October 27, 2009. He was in the U.S. Air Force from 1968 to 1972. Elmeier worked at the Social Security Administration as a claims representative for 37 years.

Christine Deering Kell '81, accounting, of Evansville, died November 20, 2009. She formerly worked as the financial controller at Thermwood Corporation in Dale, Indiana. She attended the University of Evansville and Harlaxton College in England and graduated from USI. She volunteered with P.A.A.W.S. and the Evansville Center for Dance Education.

Richard D. Ashby '91, accounting, of Boonville, Indiana, died November 4, 2009.

Alice Elpers Keil '93, business, of Evansville, died December 19, 2009. She was a homemaker and enjoyed volunteering for her children's activities.

Jackie R. Osborne '01, social work, of Princeton, Indiana, died November 15, 2009. He was a counselor with Doulos Family Ministries.

Mathilda Parker '07, Master of Social Work, of Carlisle, Indiana, died December 8, 2009. She was a social worker with the Hamilton Center in Linton, Indiana.

Michael W. Hooper '08, sociology, of Evansville, died January 5, 2010. He was a student at Liberty University.

## Faculty/staff In Memoriam

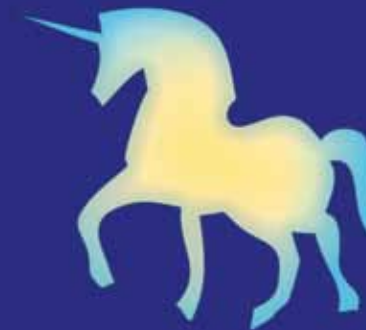
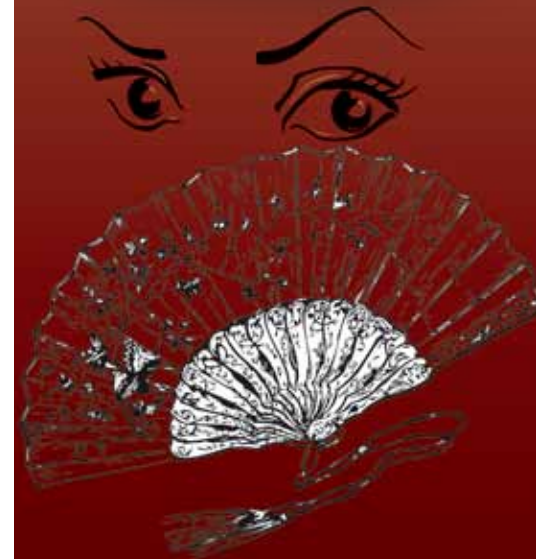
Dr. Jackson L. Marr, associate professor emeritus of biology, died December 4, 2009. Marr joined the faculty in 1971 and retired in 2001. He served as chair of the Biology Department and was active in USI athletics. As tennis coach, he brought the men's tennis program from a club sport to a competitive NCAA Division II team. He also served as faculty athletic representative to the Great Lakes Valley Conference and as a chair of the Varsity Club. A 2005 recipient of the USI Volunteer of the Year award, Marr devoted hours to tutoring students and volunteering for the Athletics Department. He was inducted posthumously into the 2010 USI Athletic Hall of Fame. Memorial contributions may be made to the Jack and Barbara Marr Biology Scholarship or the Jack Marr Men's Tennis Alumni Scholarship in the USI Foundation.

## We want to hear from you!

Do you have professional news about yourself to share with fellow graduates? Have you moved? Do you have a suggestion for a story? Let us know! We value your comments via mail (Alumni and Volunteer Services Office, 8600 University Boulevard, Evansville, IN 47712), phone (812/464-1924), FAX (812/464-1956), or email (alumni@usi.edu).

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