

VCAA newsletter



Office of Academic Affairs

Indiana University South Bend



Dear Colleagues,

Several years ago Asghar Sabbaghi introduced me to the thirteenth century Sufi mystic and poet, Rumi. Since then a collection of Rumi's poetry lies on my desk and is a constant source for meditation and renewal, particularly during hectic administrative days when endless, and seemingly mundane tasks, sap physical and emotional energy. Before Rumi, I often searched passages of Cardinal John Henry Newman's *Idea of a University* to gain intellectual sustenance. Still an important well-spring of ideas that informs my work, that tome remains within reach, only now resting comfortably on the bookcase adjacent to my desk. The work of an academic administrator, however anchored in bureaucratic morass, remains rooted in inquiry, discovery and revelation. Such was the case when I received a "poetry note," from Sara Sage reminding me of Rumi's birthday with the following verses:

Today, like every other day, we wake up empty
and frightened. Don't open the door to the study
and begin reading. Take down a musical instrument.

Like the beauty we love be whatever we do.
There are hundreds of ways to kneel and kiss the ground.

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VCAA News

A newsletter from Alfred J. Guillaume, Jr., Vice
Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Indiana University
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<http://www.iusb.edu/~acadaff/news.shtml>

Topics (page 3):

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Art in the Media Commons
Senate Address & Reading Group

Burdened with weighty decisions and administrative tedium, I promptly left my office to enjoy the brisk fall day with a walk around the mall. That was how I played my musical instrument; and what a beautiful day it was!

This fall, I begin my eleventh year as vice chancellor for academic affairs. It's hard to imagine those fleeting years since 1999. I'll never forget the wide variances of temperature within a three-month span. I arrived for my campus interview on a cold, desolate March day and returned as a successful candidate that June on a sweltering, suffocating day. The years since then have been fulfilling, personally and professionally. Amidst successes and setbacks, the campus' growth as an intellectual center and the concomitant expansion of its physical plant are phenomenal indications of its resilience and resolve to strive for excellence in its academic programming and student services. I invite you to attend the October 16th Academic Senate meeting where in my annual address on the state of academic affairs, I will offer a ten-year retrospective of our campus' development.

For several years, a group of faculty and staff has comprised the VCAA Reading Group. We typically read a book on the critical issues facing higher education. Last year we read James Anderson's book on diversity, *Driving Change Through Diversity and Globalization: Transformative Leadership in the Academy*. This year's selection is *Crossing the Finish Line: Retention in America's Public Universities* by Howard Bowen et al. Beginning in November, the group will meet weekly for six to eight weeks. If you are interested in joining us, please send me an e-mail. Due to budgetary shortages, Academic Affairs will not be able to purchase the books as in the past. The reading of this book is timely; retention has been a campus priority for several years. And this fall the campus has engaged consultants from Noel-Levitz who will spend the next few months in conversation with us, assisting us in our retention efforts. They will do a thorough examination of our behaviors in recruitment, marketing, enrollment, and campus services and will make appropriate recommendations. We are already heading in the right direction with an increase this fall in first to second year retention from fifty-nine percent to sixty-three percent.

Continuing with our image of forever striving toward academic excellence, I remind you of two exciting events on campus this month, beginning with The October 21st dedication at 4:30 pm of the Hammes Media Commons and Café. This second phase completion of a truly integrated living learning space, conceived by Michele Russo and the library faculty and staff, complements the Dorene Hammes Information Commons on the right side of the library's foyer. And on October 29th, from 8:30 am-4:30 pm, the world's leading company in sustainability consulting and training, The Natural Step (www.thenaturalstep.org), will offer a one-day workshop for our campus and our community friends. Sponsored by our Center for a Sustainable Future, the workshop will demonstrate how sustainability can be integrated into businesses and organizations, customer and employee loyalty, and competitive advantage. Scholarships are available for students at www.iusb.edu/~csfuture/news.

I'd also like to invite you to visit the art gallery in the Associates Building to view a dynamic exhibit of sculpture and painting by two African American artists, sculptor, Albert LaVergne and painter, James C. Palmore. And in keeping with our march to the grand opening of the Natatorium in May, I remind you of the October 7th, lecture at the Charles Martin Center by Notre Dame professor, Erika Doss, on "Civil Rights Memorials and Community Feelings: South Bend's Natatorium Project." Seating is limited, so please reserve your place by contacting Dina Harris in the Office of Public and University Affairs.

What is most remarkable about IU South Bend is the engagement of faculty, staff, and students in the intellectual, social, and organizational life of the university. Each of the activities mentioned above, the Noel-Levitz and book group conversations, pragmatic discussions with the Natural Step about how we live on our planet, is pabulum for continuing engagement and intellectual inquiry. I encourage you to participate in as many of these events as your schedules permit and look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,



Alfred J. Guillaume, Jr.,
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs



Kudos

Congratulations to IU South Bend's second-year student radiographers on their outstanding performance at the ISRT Student Quiz Bowl held in Indianapolis in September. Our students formed 2 teams and swept away the competition, taking both 2nd and 3rd place! The team of Dave Grall, Robert Hodapp and Chelsea Stepp took second place, narrowly edging out the team of Stefanie Bard, Kyla Barrier and Kelsey Jones, who took 3rd place. First place (by a slim margin of just 3 points) went to Ivy Tech of Marion, Indiana. A big thanks and congratulations also to alternate team members Mary Bukowski, Amy Gloff, Daniel Yeboah, Heather Kimmel and Janae Nunemaker who made the trip down state to lend support and cheer the teams on to victory!

Congratulations to Lesley Walker who received a New Frontiers in the Arts and Humanities Exploration Traveling Fellowship for \$2,500.

Kudos to the many nursing students who helped out at September 12th's Hispanic Health Fair. These students performed a great service to our community and helped empower many people with knowledge about their health. They cheerfully poked fingers, measured waist and hips and interpreted those measurements for hundreds of people, all with a smile on their face and great enthusiasm despite the early morning start. They were very professional as they provided these services and were excellent ambassadors for IU South Bend.

Jerry Hinefeld was awarded \$111,908 for his part of the "MRI-Consortium: Development of a Neutron Detector Array by Undergraduate Students for Studies of Exotic Nuclei." This award is part of the funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Jerry will work along with undergraduate students on the assembly, testing, and integration of 12 detectors to be installed at the National Superconducting Cyclotron Lab.

Michael Lasater's piece *Act II* received the first place prize in a national show "Assume Nothing" at the Union Station Gallery in Chicago. In addition, his *Crossing, Berlin 1927* (2008) received Honorable Mention at the currently running artist members show at the Morean Arts Center, St. Petersburg, FL, and *Epiphany* (2006) also received Honorable Mention in "Color Matters" at the South Shore Arts Center, Cohasset, MA.

Art in the Media Commons

When the Media Commons is officially dedicated, the School of the Arts has agreed to feature a rotating display of art work there by IU South Bend students, faculty, and alumni. These art works will be for sale, with proceeds going not only to the artists, but a proportion also going to the School of the Arts and the IU South Bend Schurz Library.

Senate Address

Vice Chancellor Guillaume will present his Annual State of Academic Affairs Address at the October 16 Academic Senate meeting. The focus will be a 10-year Retrospective.

Entrepreneurship Lecture Series: B&E

NEXT: October 8, DW1001, 7 pm, Herb Wilson, Owner of Trios, "The Right Note"; see www.iusb.edu/~buse/ELS09final_sml.pdf

Kahan: Dean's Seminar

The first Deans' Seminar of the year will be held, Friday **October 16th** at noon in the UCET Classroom. Lee Kahan, Assistant Professor of English in the Department of English, will make a presentation about his research entitled "The Talk of the Town: Publicity and Female Propriety in the Fictions of Frances Burney." (abstract posted at this [link](#)). As always, drinks will be available and please feel free to bring your lunch. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Upcoming Dean's Seminar Dates

November 20, 2009 - J.R. Shrader (Philosophy)
January 22, 2010 - Jeremy Linton (Education)
February 26, 2010 - Theo Randall (Anthropology)
March 26, 2010 - Anne Brown (Mathematics)
April 23, 2010 - Gabriel Popescu (Geography)

Reading Group

Vice Chancellor Guillaume is sponsoring a reading group that will read William Bowen et al.'s *Crossing the Finish Line: Completing College at America's Public Universities*. Several individuals have already accepted the invitation to participate in the reading group and colleagues are encouraged to join. The group will begin meeting in November and span its 6-8 weekly meetings into the spring semester. Individuals will need to purchase their own book copy. If you are interested in joining, contact the Vice Chancellor.

Best 301 Business Schools Inclusion

IU South Bend's School of Business is included in Princeton Review's annual guide-book *The Best 301 Business Schools: 2010 Edition*. The report profiles and recommends the programs. Congratulations on this distinction!

Award/Grant Opportunities:

The Assessment Committee accepts applications for assessment grants throughout the year. These grants, for up to \$3000, can be used for projects related to the assessment of student learning. Information and guidelines available at: www.iusb.edu/~sbassess/grants/granhome.shtml.

The Senate Research and Development Committee has announced its deadlines for internal Faculty Research and Curriculum Development Grants. This year's deadlines will be Friday, October 30, 2009 and Friday, February 26, 2010. Information and application guidelines are available at: www.iusb.edu/~sbres/randd/RDCComm.html. Nominations for the IUSB Distinguished Research Award are due by November 1 to Erika Zynda.



More Kudos

Congratulations to Dora Natella of the Raclin School of the Arts, who was highlighted in the September 28, 2009 *IU Home Pages*. Her work will be featured in two prestigious shows as detailed in the [article](#). Dora (shown at work in a picture accompanying the article; courtesy of Indiana University and *IU Home Pages*) will have her bronze relief *Gaia* exhibited. A picture of the work appears in the article as well.

Robert Kolt's paper, "The Evolution of an American Opera: Robert Ward's *The Crucible*," was selected as a co-winner of the National Opera Association's 2009 Scholarly Papers Competition. He will present the paper in Atlanta at the NOA Convention January 7-10, 2010.

The B.A. in Music was approved at the October Board of Trustees meeting last week. Congratulations to the Arts!