Dear Colleagues,

I’ve been sitting here at my desk in my home office pondering what to write. In my reverie, I looked up momentarily, noticed the soft autumn light cascading on the bright colored leaves of the trees that line my backyard and felt an effusive warmth of appreciation for nature’s beauty. One of the joys of a Southerner like me, living this far north, is the change of seasons with its changing array of colors; the somber gray and soft white of winter, the panoramic bursts of color in spring, the myriad bursts of bright hues of summer flowers, and the deep shades of amber and reds in autumn. Each season tantalizes us like a tango beautifully danced between color and light. A walk along our campus mall is a happy occasion to witness and experience each season’s colorful orchestration.

Like poets contemplating the precise arrangements of words in a verse, I’ve been thinking about what sentences or words might best express the sentiments I wish to convey during my last address to the faculty later this month on the state of academic affairs. For the last several weeks, I’ve envisioned and re-played, not only what I might say, but, whether I should wear the conventional dark suit with the requisite IU red tie or be bold and stand at the podium dressed in a tuxedo. After all, a faculty member in the arts previously offered this challenge. Alas, I’m still uncommitted.

Office of Academic Affairs

Indiana University South Bend

EVCAA News (formerly VCAA News)
A newsletter from Alfred J. Guillaume, Jr., Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Indiana University South Bend • Number 76 • past newsletters at http://www.iusb.edu/~acadoff/news.shtml

Topics:
Grants Received
Assessment Activities
Power of 100
Kudos & Congratulations
I do promise, however, not be be maudlin about these last thirteen years, though my emotions sway wildly between exhilaration and nostalgia; exhilaration for having spent the happiest years of my academic life here with you at IU South Bend; nostalgia for the very same reasons. My departure means that I will not be part of the working groups that plan the vision for IU South Bend going forward. There is no doubt that this campus will continue expanding its academic reputation while it concurrently enlarges its physical plant. To aid me in this transition, I do ask one favor of you. A faculty member in the arts, widely known across campus as a superb teacher, recently invited me to observe one of her classes. I am humbled and honored by this invitation, and eagerly look forward to my visit. I would be most appreciative if others among you would do likewise. As I’ve expressed numerous times, reading P&T documents can be quite tedious, but that tedium is overshadowed by the beautiful and inspirational sentiments expressed in the professors’ teaching statements.

One of the things that I’ve decided to ease my own personal transition during this last year is to spend more time out of the office ambling about the campus. Don’t be surprised if I stop for a friendly chat at your office or bump into you in the hallway. It’s something that I did regularly during my earlier years here but have been unable to do lately due to administrative chores that keep me tethered to my desk or otherwise occupied in endless meetings. I broke briefly from that mold, just last week; I was in Northside visiting Marianne Castano-Bishop and glancing out the window, across the roof, I noticed Andy Schnabel busily attending to his plants in the greenhouse. My curiosity piqued, I invited Marianne to join me for a surprise visit to the greenhouse where we had the delight to speak with Andy and Deb Marr about their research and the soon-to-be-renovated and expanded greenhouse. To support his teaching and research, Andy successfully submitted a $595,000 National Science Foundation (NSF) grant for an integrative biology research facility. The renovated and modernized space on the rooftop of Northside will provide lab space for DNA sequencing and genotyping and be equipped to allow separation of DNA extractions and other preparatory work; the microscopy and microbial culture labs will include microscope facilities that allow for culturing bacteria and fungi as well as research space; and the expanded greenhouse will form four rooms that will allow multiple simultaneous experiments each requiring unique, controlled growth conditions and space for plant collections. Once completed, it will permit faculty to work in an optimum environment for conducting research and teaching. Students will also have broader capability to work with faculty in undergraduate research.

As the year progresses, we must commit ourselves to thinking about the future and determining what kind of institution we want IU South Bend to be. The transitions in leadership are excellent stimuli to begin thinking about our institutional approaches to the next Higher Learning Commission re-accreditation in 2017. To jumpstart our thinking, we used during our second causerie a process suggested by Elizabeth Dunn, appreciative inquiry. AI is a method of conducting large and small discussion groups that identify and focus on strengths in order to bring those to bear on challenges facing an organization. To facilitate our discussions, we invited to campus Richard Frankel, a professor of medicine at IUPUI, and an expert in appreciative inquiry. In my view, the afternoon was well spent. Topics discussed were wide-ranging, including faculty research, selection of a special topic for HLC re-accreditation, faculty governance, student success, student-community engagement, international education, adjunct faculty pay and benefits, and campus image and identity. We’ll want to build on the momentum of these discussions and include broader participation across the university. I will be consulting with the deans and the senate executive leadership to determine the next steps. In the interim, do take time from your hectic schedules to enjoy autumn’s bounty.

Sincerely,

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

Nominations Deadline
Nominations for the all-IU John W. Ryan Award, to honor faculty members who have made exceptional contributions to international programs at Indiana University over the years, are being requested. The nominations are due by November 11, 2011. Details may be found at this [link].

Right: Yes, that used to be the Associates Building. It is now in transition to becoming the renovated Education and Arts Building.
Grants Received (thanks to Lee Streby, Grants Writer)
The Ernestine M. Raclin School of the Arts has been awarded three grants totaling $50,000 to support the production of Russian Piano: Exploring Rachmaninoff and Stravinsky with Alexander Toradze and Friends in collaboration with WFMT/Chicago. This project was made possible first through a $10,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, the second NEA grant to be awarded to IU South Bend in three years; a pledge of $10,000 from the Rachmaninoff Foundation; and a generous $30,000 gift from the Martin Foundation, Inc. The Russian Piano project will create eight hours of programming focused on the two composers’ works for the piano, and will be broadcast nationally and internationally on classical radio stations. The series will feature commentary, interviews and performances by Alexander Toradze and members of the Toradze Piano Studio, an interview with celebrated Russian conductor Valery Gergiev, and narration by celebrity actor Alec Baldwin.

The Civil Rights Heritage Center at the Engman Natatorium has been awarded three grants totaling $9,500 for the development of a new African American Civil Rights Landmarks Tour of South Bend. This walking/driving tour will be developed in partnership with the Northern Regional Office of Indiana Landmarks and the Northern Indiana Center for History. Tour materials to be created will include a printed tour guide available locally and throughout the state, a large tour map sign to be placed outside its origination point at the Engman Natatorium, and several smaller historic site markers to be placed outside several of the tour stops where markers do not currently exist. The grants were awarded by the National Trust for Historic Preservation through their Partnership-in-Scholarship Fund for African American Historic Places, funded by the Ford Foundation and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Indiana Humanities Historic Preservation Education Program (with partial funding provided by Indiana Landmarks and the National Endowment for the Humanities), and Indiana Landmarks’ African American Heritage Fund. The tour will become a permanent program of the Civil Rights Heritage Center and Natatorium, and is scheduled for completion in the spring.

FACET Nominations
Deborah Marr is the IU South Bend campus representative for FACET, the Faculty Colloquium on Excellence in Teaching. FACET, an Indiana University-wide association of faculty from all IU campuses who are recognized for teaching excellence and cultivating pedagogical innovation, is seeking nominations of outstanding teaching faculty for the 2012 Class. Eligibility requirements for nomination include full-time faculty status, significant teaching responsibilities, and service in at least the fifth year of a full-time faculty appointment.

Nominations at all faculty ranks are encouraged. Nominators should send the names of faculty nominees to Deb. Self-nomination is not permitted. The deadline for nominations is Friday, September 23, 2011 and all required materials must be submitted by November 28, 2011. Please check the FACET website [link] for links to the Application Guidelines. Deb will lead a workshop in early October on preparing the FACET dossier.

New Citizens
Catherine Borshuk (PSY & WGS) and Gabriel Popescu (POLS) took the official oath of citizenship in an induction ceremony in downtown South Bend at the Federal Building on September 16th. Cathy and Gabriel were approved for citizenship in December and U.S. Representative Joe Donnelly’s office assisted with making the arrangements so that the official oath could be scheduled in South Bend. Congratulations to our new citizens!

Assessment Activities (thanks to Rhonda Culbertson)
This summer, a faculty team took part in the Association of American Colleges and Universities 2011 Institute on General Education and Assessment, sponsored by an IU South Bend assessment grant funds. This week-long institute was an opportunity to do an in-depth exploration of general education assessment, meet with other campuses tackling similar programs and develop an individualized campus plan.

The campus was well-represented by the following team members: Mike Darnel (Chair of the Campus Assessment Committee), Linda Chen (Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs), Elizabeth Dunn (Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences), Michelle Bakerson (Campus Assessment Committee member and a scholar of educational assessment), and Jorge Muniz (Campus General Education Committee member).

The sessions featured many valuable ideas, but the team members concurred that the most valuable part of the conference was the time spent meeting together and with other teams planning the future of general education assessment at South Bend. Under the direction of Linda Chen, the committee is ready to move forward on the general education assessment plan. Attendance at assessment conferences is only one of the many types of projects and activities that can be supported by assessment grants. The assessment committee encourages any faculty member or group with an assessment project idea to apply. Please see the assessment committee website for more information [link].

Documentary: Power of 100
WNIT aired a special documentary on the 100 Black Men of Greater South Bend, The Power of 100, and their work in the community on September 22. The documentary shows the group’s work with young high-risk African American males. Among those who are part of this group and appearing in the documentary are IU South Bend’s EVCAA Alfred J. Guillaume, Jr. and Theodore Randall (SOC & ANTH) [other IU South Bend members include Dean Marvin Curtis (ARTS), Richmond Calvin (emeritus EDUC), and Kevin James (SOC)]. The documentary will be aired multiple times in the next month and during Black History Month in February. The WNIT website can be found at this [link].
Kudos

Two faculty in World Language Studies, Catherine Hebert (lecturer) and John Davis (senior lecturer), have published recently. John B. Davis and Catherine Hebert, Co-Authors: ¡Arriba! Comunicación y cultura (6th ed.), 2011. Pearson. The publication is a testing program for the 1st-year college Spanish text. It is available in print form and online and will be available for online testing using a language-lab type setting. Congratulations!

“Street Life in Florence,” an exhibit on the IU South Bend campus of the work of students who took part in this summer’s coursework in Florence, Italy, and a course taught by Susan Moore (ARTS), was featured in an IU Home Pages story [link]. Congratulations

The IU South Bend Euclid Quartet starred in a TV commercial that is airing on Comcast Cable throughout Chicagoland: [link].

Distance Learning Grants were awarded to develop distance courses (either online or blended/hybrid courses) to: Mark Fox (B&E), Lori Balmer (CHS/Imaging Technology), Tracey Trottier (POLs), Barbara Thomas (Education).

IU South Bend recent graduate Krista Kuskye (BFA, Photography 2011) was accepted into a national juried exhibition at the Smithsonian Institute [link].

Kudos - College of Health Sciences

Following its site visit and review, the Dental Hygiene Program received notice that it is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and has been granted the accreditation status of “approval without reporting requirements.” The Commission is a specialized accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education. Congratulations!

On September 23, two teams of IU South Bend Radiography Program students competed in the Indiana Society of Radiologic Technologists annual student Quiz Bowl in Indianapolis. They competed with 14 other teams from Radiography Programs throughout Indiana. One of the IU South Bend teams captured first place and will be in possession of the I.S.R.T. Quiz Bowl Traveling Trophy until the next competition. The other IU South Bend team secured a third place finish. Congratulations to all the students who competed.

Congratulations

Marvin Curtis directed a concert in Washington, DC sponsored by Damien Ministries on September 11. A composition by Dean Curtis (originally composed for and performed at the inauguration of President Bill Clinton) was performed also as part of the concert. The concert was in memory of those who died on 9/11 but also those affected by and lost to HIV and AIDS. A review of the concert may be found at this [link].

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