Dear Colleagues,

Since my return from teaching in Toulon, France, just a month ago, it seems as if I’ve been in perpetual motion. From the moment I attended Elizabeth Bennion’s Lundquist Lecture, shortly after my plane’s landing until Tuesday’s commencement, year-end activities dominated my life. Though physically tiring, the last two weeks have been emotionally exhilarating. The Governor’s Arts Award, a bi-annual statewide event, held on our campus for the first time, was a grand success. Hosted by the governor, the event honors outstanding contributions to the arts by Hoosiers. Feted this year among others from across the state were Alexander Toradze for excellence in musical performance and June Edwards, an avid local philanthropist to the arts. Touted as “an immense force,” Lexo was honored for his “piano studio known as a symbol of excellence that rivals that of important national education centers like the Julliard School and the Manhattan School of Music.” June Edwards’ name is associated with all the major arts organizations in the area, including, but not limited to, the South Bend Symphony, the South Bend Museum of Art, the South Bend Chamber series, Fischoff Chamber Music Association, and the IU South Bend Arts Foundation. A devotee of chamber music, she is a strong supporter of our own Euclid Quartet.

In keeping with my frenzied pace of the last few weeks, I had the pleasure of attending two outstanding musical events of the Raclin School of the Arts. In its spring concert, the Euclid Quartet once again demonstrated why it is one of the top university quartets in residence.
program of Schubert and Chausson with the internationally acclaimed violinist, Gregory Fulkerson, was mesmerizing. And just last Saturday evening at the Morris Performing Arts Center, Alexander Tordaze and students from his Studio gave the audience an electrifying performance of piano concertos by Chopin, Rachmaninoff, Mozart and Prokokiev. In unbridled appreciation, the audience jumped to its feet in rousing applause after each performance. I can imagine few university piano programs in the world that can match the deft artistry of these students’ renditions. At the reception that followed, I heard repeatedly effusive praise for the Toradze Studio. I share the obvious enthusiasm of these sentiments and thank Lexo and his students for the bountiful joy they give to our community. In fostering the university’s mission of public engagement, both the Toradze Studio and our Euclid Quartet enrich the quality of life in Michiana.

In keeping with the round of year-end activities, I was delighted to offer comments at the Making the Academic Connections pre-commencement recognition of minority students. In my brief remarks, I urged the students to make real the value of their college education by being active participants in their communities. I congratulated them for their perseverance and diligence in graduating from college when far too many minorities across the country fail to finish high school or persist in college. I reminded them too of their obligation to help others achieve. In a country where the minority will be the majority by the year 2050, there is urgency in the successful educational attainment of minorities. I am more and more mindful of this at each graduation exercise as the number of minorities graduating from IU South Bend increases. For them, and for all of our graduates, my sincere hope is that their years with us have been transformative. Here they have been exposed to new ideas and learned different ways of thinking about complex issues. And as they shape the world around them, I trust that they will use as guideposts the confluence of knowledge gained from their study of literature, the arts, philosophy and science. I want them to be at home in the world as their ideas and values evolve, as they surely will the more they grow and learn. But most all, my hope and dream for each of them is that they be good stewards of the earth, remain true to themselves, and be a forever learner. And may they adhere to ethical behavior in their professional and personal choices. In an ever changing world, may the lessons these graduates learned – to be forever respectful; to embrace ambiguity; to celebrate differences; and to nurture one’s connectivity to the larger world – give them confidence to overcome the inevitable challenges and adversities. These are the enduring values of their IU South Bend education.

Best wishes to each of you for a grand summer.

Sincerely,

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

In Memoriam

Once again we deliver the sad news about the passing of a member of the IU South Bend community. On May 1, a retired faculty member, Associate Professor Emeritus of Mathematics, Paul Beem died. Biographical information from CLAS and the Mathematics Department are posted [link] and the department plans to post a memorial as well. Paul retired in 2004 after 29 years at IU South Bend. He was a researcher as well as a fine teacher and he also actively engaged in using technology in mathematical instruction. We will miss this member of the IU South Bend family and our deepest sympathies are extended to the family.
Daniel DeBrule

As a clinical psychologist, Dr. Daniel DeBrule approaches teaching and research with an eye towards effectiveness for understanding and treating mental illness, with particular emphasis on PTSD, depression, and suicide prevention and education. He was fortunate to receive quality mentoring from Richard Tedeschi and Lawrence Calhoun, authors of books and countless articles on posttraumatic growth, or positive change after a trauma, as an undergraduate. Drs. Tedeschi and DeBrule offered a workshop on posttraumatic growth in South Bend for area clinicians and students on April 13, the first event in the Michiana area sponsored by the Indiana Psychological Association. Dr. DeBrule seeks to continue the invaluable mentoring that spurred his passion for psychology by directing two research teams at IU South Bend that focus on writing interventions for mood and anxiety disorders or suicide prevention. Many of his students are accepted into competitive graduate programs and have remained active in research. Former student Chris Drapeau (BGS, 2010, PhD student at Ball State) and Dr. DeBrule co-authored two papers and conducted a workshop at the national conference on suicidology in Baltimore in April. Much of Dr. DeBrule’s research is made possible by the Alice Swarm Fund for mental illness, which was awarded in 2008. The mission of the fund is to enhance area mental health resources through funding undergraduate research, collaboration with other universities, and offering presentations in Michiana on vital mental health topics. Professor of psychology and Associate Vice Chancellor Dr. John McIntosh has been invaluable as a consultant and proponent of many of these endeavors, particularly in suicide education. Dr. DeBrule has taught the popular Suicide and Depression course at IU South Bend for over four years and is working with Dr. McIntosh to disseminate the course nationally with a new textbook. He has also presented on the topic at national conferences.

Over the past few years, Dr. DeBrule has spoken at numerous agencies, universities, and institutions about suicide prevention, writing interventions, and strategies for therapists, including the Assessing and Managing Suicide Risk (AMSR) workshop. He is the only psychologist trained to offer AMSR in Indiana, and his 7-hour workshop meets a vital need in the training of doctors, nurses, clinicians, and other professionals in being competent and skilled in helping individuals struggling with suicide. Dr. DeBrule’s research lab is currently working on studies that involve writing as a helpful tool for college students, suicidal grief, and women who have suffered abuse, as well as examining the use of narrative methods in veterans with schizophrenia (through collaboration with Dr. Paul Lysaker at the Indianapolis VA), suicide risk in Asian-Americans, and emotional intelligence in the context of suicidal thinking. Dr. DeBrule is also a practicing licensed psychologist who provides therapy and testing at Feathergill and Associates as well as the Stress Recovery Center.

Our thanks to Lee Streby for his contribution in obtaining the text above.

Alexander Toradze: 20 Years at Indiana University South Bend

Marking 20 years since he arrived at IU South Bend, Distinguished Professor Alexander Toradze and 4 members of the Toradze Studio performed with the South Bend Symphony Orchestra on May 5th [link]. Martin Endowed Professor of Piano Toradze was also honored at the 2011 Indiana Governor’s Awards for the Arts held April 26 hosted by IU South Bend and the Ernestine M. Raclin School of the Arts.

Above: Standing on the left, Maestro Tsung Yeh, SBSO’s music director; Leah Dominy; and Professor Toradze. Seated from left, Misun Moon; Marvin Curtis, Dean of the Raclin School of the Arts; and Ketevan Kartvelishvili. Standing on the right, Ignasi Cambra. Dominy, Moon, Kartvelishvili, and Cambra were the studio students who performed along with Toradze on May 5 (photo courtesy South Bend Tribune)
Retiree Recognition
On May 7th, those who retired in the past year were recognized for their service to IU South Bend and its students. Retirees were Allen Anderson (CJUS), Mary Basolo-Kunzer (NURS), Cheri Brown (WLS/ German), Chang Choi (MATH), Richard Cook (MATH/ARC), Gail Hadley (EDUC/ARC), Randy Isaacson (EDUC), Jon Meyer (ARTS), Douglas Singh (BUSE), and Constance Sprague (EDUC). We thank these individuals for their outstanding efforts for the campus and wish them the best in retirement.

Associate Faculty/Publications Reception
On April 19 overlapping receptions were held recognizing faculty who published in the past year as well as associate faculty who had reached milestone years in their service to IU South Bend (e.g., 5, 10, 15 etc. years). Pictured at right are the associate faculty in attendance who were recognized and EVCAA Guillaume (photo courtesy Kathy Borlik). A list of faculty publications may be found at this [link].
Kudos and Events

Congratulations to Marjorie M. Rusche, D.M., associate faculty member in the Raclin School of the Arts (MUSIC) who received Merit Status. Merit Status is awarded to individuals who have made a professional commitment to IU South Bend based on criteria related to teaching, course development, student consultation, research, publications, performance, university and community service, and attendance at professional meetings. Merit Status associate faculty receive special consideration for future teaching assignments as well an increase in their base pay.

Share the Road /Bike the Bend Events

On May 2nd the Share the Road event was held in South Bend. This event was intended to raise community awareness and safety among bicyclists, motorists, and pedestrians regarding the presence of and potential dangers associated with sharing the roadways [link]. About 85 cyclists attended the event, biking particularly on Indiana 23. This roadway was selected in memory of cyclist Steven Carey who died in an accident on February 19 of this year. In addition to the biking, several speakers addressed the group (including EVCAA Guillaume, see picture above, and Mayor Buttigieg) to encourage the event theme “Share the Road ... Every Life Counts.”

Sustainability Efforts at IU South Bend

Sustainability efforts and the Center for a Sustainable Future at IU South Bend were noted in an IU Home Pages story recently [link]. In addition, the annual campus ewaste recycling event will take place on May 12 and was featured in another IU Home Pages story [link].

Lasater Exhibition and Work

Michael Lasater’s (ARTS) current solo exhibition at the South Bend Museum of Art runs through July 8, 2012 (feature articles about Michael’s work have appeared in the South Bend Tribune on April 1; IU HomePages on April 27; and The Preface on April 24). Concurrent and future gallery exhibitions include: Culture Gallery Seattle (through December, 2012); South Shore Art Center, Cohasset, MA (through May 6, 2012); and the New Arts Program, Lehigh Valley, PA (May 25 - July 15, 2012). The Jesse Stuart Foundation is now running Michael’s 1997 documentary Jesse Stuart: An American Writer as a streaming video resource on their website. The University Press of Kentucky is running his 1989 documentary James Still: Man on Troublesome Creek [click on the “Video” link].

Research and Curriculum Grants

Faculty have recently received research and curriculum development grants to support their work. Faculty Research Grant recipients: Vishal Bindroo (B&E), Hayley Froysland (HIST), Neovi Karakatsanis (POLS), Anne Magnan-Park (ENG), Bruce McDonald (POLS), Maria Mendez (B&E), Susan Moore (ARTS), Grace Muna (CHEM), Anurag Pant (B&E), Andrea Rusnock (ARTS), Kyoko Takehashi (ENG), Monica Tetzlaff (HIST), James VanderVeen (SOC), Haiyan Yin (B&E), Liguang Yu (INFO), Liqiang Zhang (COIS). Curriculum Development Grant recipients: Christina Gerken (WGS), Joseph Chaney (ENG).

All–IU Award Nominations

Nominations for all–IU awards (Distinguished Professorships, Distinguished Teaching, Ehrlitch, Pinnell, Ryan) are due by 5:00 pm on Monday, October 15, 2012. All materials are submitted electronically and information may be found at [link] and questions sent to disteach@indiana.edu or by calling 812-855-3761. The annual dinner celebrating distinguished teaching is tentatively scheduled for Friday, April 5, 2013 at IUB.