Dear Colleagues,

I imagine that many of you during your drive to work listen to NPR as I do. It’s a lazy way to keep abreast of world events and occasionally hear interesting stories about unique and special people. Yet, there are times when I become weary and saddened by the magnitude of turmoil and stress in the world. So, on occasion, I tune out of NPR and I listen to one of my favorite CD’s. One morning last week, I listened to the famed classical guitarist Andres Segovia’s renditions of early Spanish music. The plaintive, melancholic chords transported me several years back to the time when my older son, who was spending his junior year in Spain, and I were visiting Granada. The sometimes sharp, strident, then mellifluous tone of the guitar brought back the image of a modestly dressed elderly man, seated on the stone veranda of one of the courtyards of the Alhambra, strumming softly on his guitar the tune, “Sevilla.” Standing there in the somber shadows of the Alhambra, my son and I were mesmerized by the elegance and virtuosity of the musicianship. So moved was I by the moment, I vowed to read Washington Irving’s Tales of the Alhambra. That sojourn in Spain recalls many cherished moments with my son. In this season of joy, may we all relish those special moments with family and friends. Happy Holidays and a prosperous New Year!!

Assessment

The Assessment Committee is pleased to announce that the following grants were awarded during the fall round of grants.

- Education – Lee Smith was awarded a grant for the refining the evaluation mechanism for stakeholder satisfaction with teacher education program candidates.
- Education – Naomi Peterson will be leading a project to develop an assessment instrument for associate faculty. This project includes presentation of the information at two conferences.
- Informatics – Two faculty members from the Informatics program will be attending an assessment conference, supported by an assessment grant.
- Computer and Information Sciences – Hossein Hakimzadeh and Ruth Schwartz will be developing a web-based tool for conducting alumni surveys.

A total of $10,937 was awarded. Another round of applications will be accepted during the Spring semester.

For more information on assessment grants, and for final reports from previously awarded grants, please consult the Assessment Committee website at: http://www.iusb.edu/~sbassess/granhome.shtml

International Exchange Affiliations Grant

- Dean Patrick O’Meara, Office of International Programs, has announced the availability of funds to support exchange partnerships between units of IU and foreign institutions of higher education. The competitive program awards grants of up to $6,000 and will be administered by the Office of International Programs. For more information about this grant, please visit the following site http://www.indiana.edu/~intlprog/.

KUDOS

One Book-One Campus/American Democracy Project - We continue to receive compliments from members of the community and from representatives of other institutions about our One Book-One Campus program and American Democracy Project. A number of community members have expressed their excitement about the Hedges book and are eagerly awaiting his visit to campus this Spring.

Congratulations to all involved with these programs!

Best wishes,

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