Dear Colleagues,

Happy New Year and welcome back. I trust that each of you had pleasant days with family and friends during the holidays. Additionally, you had a chance to catch up on work or enjoy a few days to weather our winter storms. My family stayed close to South Bend, although we did visit Nashville last week and took a few days to eat lobster and walk along the harbor. We found the collaborative and interactive approach of the sessions really interesting. We will definitely be purchasing survey software for this project. $1800 will be purchasing survey software for this project. $1800

In October, during my annual address to the senate on the State of Academic Affairs, I mentioned that part of the future vision for ISB South Bend included increased external funding. Our goal is to build a culture that has a wealth of extraordinary scholars and researchers and I mentioned a few. In the ensuing months of my newsletter, I will highlight Professor Andy Schnabel. Andy is an evolutionary biologist with a passion for plants. He produces and trains them as a biologist with an eye toward ecology, genetics, evolutionary theory, and basic botany. Those postdoctoral positions diversified his educational and technical mathematical modeling in solving many of the emerging technologies of molecular biology. Andy is a meticulous and careful scientist who brings imagination and creativity to his research projects. He recently received a highly competitive research award from the National Science Foundation to dissect the complex population biology of African species. This award represents the most compelling reinforcement possible of Andy’s talent and the quality of his science. Andy is also a member of the Undergraduate Research Committee and he regularly employs students in all aspects of his own research. We are proud of our faculty and in the subsequent newsletter and scholarship we will look forward to his Research Award lecture later in the spring.

Best wishes to all for a successful semester.

American Democracy Project (ADP)

Jimerry and Andy Droese (IPFW) and KP and Smith have been working on a proposal for a sustainable campus initiative to lease student radio and help students interested in ADP participants across the state. They were interested in spreading those good seeds of sustainability and public engagement. They also hope to find new ways to engage students in writing for these ADP projects. A basic design of the system was developed, and participants are coming to review it to see whether it meets our needs; we hope it can been launched soon.

Assessment

The Assessment Committee is pleased to announce the recipients of the Fall 2005 round of assessment grants. The goal of the Fall Assessment program is to support the development of innovative program evaluation strategies to improve the quality of instruction on the IU South Bend campus. Professor Pressler, Director of Research, Barbara White, Office Manager, received a grant to develop pre and post assessment instruments based on course objectives. A graduate student was involved in these projects. The Assessment Institute in Indianapolis. Their attendance was validated by the National Survey of Student Engagement. They were interested in finding new ways to engage students in writing for these ADP projects. A basic design of the system was developed, and participants are coming to review it to see whether it meets our needs.

School of Business & Economics

In the NWIR Strategic Skills Initiative, Occupational Qualification Shortage Reports, the Northern Indiana Business-sector first eleven regions report a score of 92 out of 100. My understanding is that we were the only region in the 90s. That is testimony to the hard work of the Dan Hendricks, Director of Strategic Development, Chuck Pressler, Director of Research, Barbara White, Office Manager, the University Research Team and Dr. Robert D. Black, Chair of the University Research Team. They are interested in spreading these good seeds of sustainability and public engagement. They also hope to find new ways to engage students in writing for these ADP projects. A basic design of the system was developed, and participants are coming to review it to see whether it meets our needs.

Kudos

Jon Mayer, Professor in the School of the Arts, is having a one person museum exhibition at the Butler Institute of American Art in Youngstown, Ohio. The opening was held on December 11, 2005. Eight graphic design students, accompanied by Karen Ackoff, Program Director of Graphic Design (Visual Arts), attended the World Photosho Conference September 7-9 in Toronto, Canada. The exhibitions presented a variety of topics such as still life photography, color management, press issues, and a course on Photoshop itself. It was an excellent conference. Professor Mayer informed me about the conference and asked me to pass on his thanks to everyone who participated. They are interested in spreading these good seeds of sustainability and public engagement. They also hope to find new ways to engage students in writing for these ADP projects. A basic design of the system was developed, and participants are coming to review it to see whether it meets our needs.

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