Dear Colleagues,

A warning popped on my screen recently with an ominous message that my mailbox was full and that I could no longer send or receive e-mail. This has happened before. My first reaction is irritation followed by a sudden urge to push “select all” and delete the entire mailbox. But this would be irresponsible behavior and only add to my frustration. My procrastination to eliminate old messages keeps me trapped in this vicious cycle. Every morning, and in good humor, I face an avalanche of e-mails. I could spend the entire day tethered to my computer, fumbling with responses. In my sincere desire to maintain the upper-hand, I vow to delete mail immediately upon reading or place them in folders. If it were only that simple!

Computing technology has made communications spontaneous and instant. Words float interminably through cyberspace, and in our need for quick information our computers and Blackberrys have become constant companions. The carefully phrased memo or the precise crafting of words that once evolved into eloquent sentences is a product of a bygone era. We now slavishly write, no type, our most intimate thoughts on a screen in abbreviated code in staccato-like sentences that miraculously form comprehensible thoughts. With a quick push of a button, we’re suddenly in communication with our intended recipient. The Neanderthal Pony
Express and the thoroughly modern Federal Express was and is not so agile. Still, no matter how determined I am to harness technology, my ineptitude in managing my mail folders is my personal albatross.

Now that I’ve confessed and revealed my lack of technological savvy, I will admit how struck I am by Joel Garreau’s book, *Radical Evolution: The Promise and Peril of Enhancing Our Minds, Our Bodies—and What It Means to Be Human.* As advances in technology evolve, the distinctions between artificial intelligence and human nature become increasingly blurred. Sophisticated machinery assumes human-like characteristics such as thinking, anticipating and responding. We’ve come to expect that computers, like our grade school teachers, will habitually check spelling and grammar. And it is not out of the norm for us to absent-mindedly ignore how routinely computers direct pilots to a safe landing. In today’s world, technology supplants ordinary human tasks and activities from manufacturing to health care. And as technology advances and acquires more intelligence, the human nature of computerized machines replaces the need for human intervention. My fascination with Garreau’s book is that it raises interesting questions about artificial intelligence and its relatedness to the human experience. Mr. Garreau’s recent talk on campus piqued my interest further about the interconnectedness between man and machine and technology’s role in transforming one like the other. I found his talk brilliantly executed and delivered with a feverish passion and conviction. He was quite convincing about the overlapping distinctions between enhanced human functionality that is mechanistic versus enhanced machine technology that is more human-like. Later in the evening, in the company of my wife and Michele Russo, I had the pleasure of dining with Mr. Garreau. Our very animated conversation, spiced with salty language, centered on whether machines in their advanced intelligence could make moral judgment or assume emotions like happiness or sadness. To no surprise, clarity on this issue is elusive, but what is certain is that human behavior has been altered through technology. For me, the hell scenario that Mr. Garreau describes as a consequence of technology’s evolution is the continuing harassment I will receive from my computer if I fail to learn proper e-mail protocols; not doing so will subject me to the punitive actions of my computer that will deny me the ability to send or receive mail. Voilà!

Fortunately for me, there is music to bring calmness to my life. In February, our campus was alive with music. It began with the stupendous celebration in song “Lift Every Voice,” a choral extravaganza conducted by Dean Marvin Curtis with guest artists from across the country in concert with the South Bend Symphonic Choir. The event played to a full house in the campus’ performing arts auditorium. Equally impressive was the two-week festival of “Music Across the Atlantic 2009,” hosted by Professor Jorge Muñiz, fostering new music from institutions on both sides of the Atlantic – the Conservatory of Asturias (Spain) and IU South Bend. During the two weeks of the festival, two professors from Spain gave several lectures – Fernándo López on his own compositions and Miguel Fernández on the history of electroacoustic music. Prof. Fernández also collaborated with students in visual arts in a multidisciplinary exhibit of student art and music that was presented in the Schurz library. At the closing of the festival two concerts of New Music were given where several world premieres were performed. The festival was funded in part by the Indiana University Exchange Affiliations Grant 2007-2009.

As spring nears, I wish each of you a wonderful spring break.

Sincerely,

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

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**Stimulus Funding Website Posted**
The IU Office of Research Administration has posted a new website to provide timely information about increased funding available through the American Relief and Reconstruction Act. Please go to [http://researchadmin.iu.edu/stimulus.html](http://researchadmin.iu.edu/stimulus.html) to monitor funding opportunities in your areas of interest.

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**Student Art Exhibit**
Be sure to visit the student art exhibit on display until March 27th in the Art Gallery. There is splendid art to view.

**Commons and Café Webpage**
Check out the webpage for the Dorene Dwyer Hammes Media Commons and Café. You will find a link to it from the Schurz Library homepage or you can access it directly at [http://www.iusb.edu/~libg/mc/index.shtml](http://www.iusb.edu/~libg/mc/index.shtml). You can also view a video about the Multimedia Production Studio at the webpage.

**IU South Bend Forum**
On March 25 at 8 pm, Communication Arts and the Raclin School of the Arts host the IUSB Forum in NS152, featuring a presentation by Orage Quarles III, publisher of the Raleigh (NC) News and Observer, one of the most prominent African American newspaper publishers in the country. The title of the presentation is "The Future of Newspapers."
Awards & Kudos

Several IU South Bend faculty members have been recognized recently with awards. Please join us in congratulating these colleagues.

Tom Miller (Arts) was selected as the Alumni Association’s second annual Legacy Award recipient as announced at the February 27 Senate meeting. As part of IU’s Founder’s Day activities on March 27:

- P.N. Saksena (Business & Economics) will receive a President’s Award for Outstanding Teaching
- Elizabeth Bennion (Political Science/CLAS) will receive a W. George Pinnell Award for Outstanding Service
- Linda Young (Education) will receive a Part-Time Faculty Teaching Award

Congratulations to Joe Chaney, who has received a Fulbright Award to work in Hong Kong from September 2009 through June 2010.

Congratulations to Linford Fisher who has received a National Endowment for the Humanities long-term fellowship offered in conjunction with the Massachusetts Historical Society in Boston. Linford will be in residence at the MHS between January and July 2010. The $46,750 award and fellowship will allow him to make significant progress on his book manuscript, presently entitled: The Indian Great Awakening: Religion and the Shaping of Native Cultures in Early America.

Congratulations to Tammy Fong-Morgan who will be the new Director of UCET beginning July 1. Many thanks to Jennifer Klein for her years of outstanding dedication and service as UCET Director.

Congratulations to Linford Fisher who has received a National Endowment for the Humanities long-term fellowship offered in conjunction with the Massachusetts Historical Society in Boston. Linford will be in residence at the MHS between January and July 2010. The $46,750 award and fellowship will allow him to make significant progress on his book manuscript, presently entitled: The Indian Great Awakening: Religion and the Shaping of Native Cultures in Early America.

Congratulations to Ilan Levine who was one of several IU faculty featured in the 40-page February special edition of Porte UAW CAP Council, and Teamsters and scholar/teacher’s guide to the California Flannel Spring. They have hired six IU South Bend students to work on this project. In addition, China Scherz received an Associate Faculty Development Grant ($736) to present her research, “The Vulnerable and the Worthy: Making and Erasing Population Distinctions in Central Uganda,” at the American Anthropological Association meetings in San Francisco.

Congratulations to Ilan Levine who was one of several IU faculty featured in the 40-page February special edition of The Scholarship Available

SoTL 10th Annual Conference
On April 3rd, the 10th Annual Midwest Conference on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning will be held at IU South Bend. Two separate sessions of presentations about technology and a keynote address by renowned educator and speaker John Seely Brown on “Teaching Well With Technology” will take place. Information on Brown may be found at http://sitespress.iu.edu/news/page/normal/10141.html

E-Portfolio Workshop
On April 10th, the Assessment Committee will host a workshop on e-portfolios. (1:30 pm)

Scholarship Available
The 2009 Howard Snyder Scholarship for Community Services sponsored by the North Central Indiana AFL-CIO, the St. Joseph La Porte IAW CAP Council, and Teamsters and Chauffeurs Local #364 is available. Contact Dawn Chapla at United Way for details. dchapla@uwjsic.org. Due by April 30.

Hernando: Dean’s Seminar
The next Deans' Seminar of the year will be held, Friday March 27th at noon in the UCET Classroom. Julio Hernando, Assistant Professor of Spanish in the Department of World Languages, will make a presentation about his research entitled “Warmongers and Peacemakers in Medieval Spanish Epic,” exploring “the relationship between violence and its writing,” looking at “a textual body that could be broadly described as ‘military narratives’ – epic, historiographical or fictional accounts of combat.” As always, drinks will be available and please feel free to bring your lunch. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Publications Reception
At 3:30 pm on April 3rd, a reception honoring faculty who have published during 2008 will be held in the Chancellor’s Dining Room.

Undergrad Research Conference
The IU South Bend Undergraduate Research Council will sponsor an Undergraduate Research Symposium April 24 to spotlight and recognize research, scholarly and creative works by undergraduates. Please plan to attend this campus-wide celebration of undergraduate research and discover the outstanding and substantial research our undergraduates are conducting.

Undergrad Research Conference website http://www.iusb.edu/~ugrsch/

Campus Sustainability Award
The Center for a Sustainable Future is seeking nominations for an IU South Bend Campus Sustainability Award for an IU South Bend employee who has made an outstanding contribution to campus sustainability efforts. Contact Mike Keen for a nomination form.

Upcoming Dean’s Seminar Date
April 17, 2009 - Rolf Schimmrigk

Award/Grant Opportunities:

Submissions for the Walter Salz Family Essay Award (essays on any aspect of the history of German Jews) are due by June 1, 2009. For details, contact the Department of Germanic Studies at IU Bloomington. Flyers for the competition are posted in Wiekamp Hall on campus.

The assessment committee accepts applications for assessment grants throughout the year. These grants, for up to $3000, can be used for a variety of projects related to the assessment of student learning. More information and application guidelines are available at: http://www.iusb.edu/~sbusess/grants/granthome.shtml.

The 2009 Assessment Institute will be held in Indianapolis October 25-27, 2009. To submit a proposal by March 20, go to: http://planning.iupui.edu/institute/callforproposals. For more information, please consult: http://www.planning.iupui.edu/ (click on ‘Assessment Institute - October 25-27, 2009’) or contact Trudy Banta at: Phone: (317) 274-4111; Fax: (317) 274-4651; Email: tbahta@iupui.edu

Associate Faculty Recognition Reception
Associate faculty members who have taught at IU South Bend for 5 to 25 years (in 5-year increments of years) will be recognized for their service at a recognition reception on April 3rd in the Alumni Room of the Administration Building from 4 pm to 5:30 pm.