Dear Colleagues,

Last month we had the happy occasion of welcoming back to campus Chancellor Emeritus Lester Wolfson during the public introduction of A Campus Becoming, the latest publication of the Wolfson Press, authored by Professors Emeriti Patrick Furlong and Tom Vander Ven. The book chronicles the early development of IU South Bend and focuses on the pivotal role of Chancellor Emeritus Wolfson’s leadership in designing a first-rate university with emphasis on academic excellence. Characterized by erudition and eloquence, Chancellor Emeritus Wolfson’s annual faculty addresses were inspirational discourses on the hallowed traditions of discovery and learning. As campus leader and champion of the arts and sciences, he exhorted the faculty to reach for excellence. His inimitable discourses, replete with a trove of literary allusions, reminded faculty of the sacred bond they shared with students. His idea of a university included thorough and unfettered examination of the arts and sciences in the making of an educated person. Nearly two hundred guests came to reminisce with Chancellor Emeritus Wolfson, among them many former faculty and staff. He greeted each warmly as if the gulf between present and past was non-existent. Copies of A Campus Becoming are available in the bookstore or through Ken Smith, the editor of the Wolfson Press. The book is also the chosen selection for the VCAA Reading Group in the spring.
The first drafts of the university-wide Blueprint committees are nearly finished. Final reports are due March 1. Vice President John Applegate and others met recently with faculty and staff to discuss progress and to seek further input from the campus. By all accounts, the meetings proved fruitful. A similar university-wide effort looking at maximizing the effectiveness of the regional campuses was done eleven years ago in December of 1999. The lengthy report, titled, Center for Regional Campus Excellence, can be obtained at the Academic Affairs webpage: http://www.iusb.edu/~acadaff/CenterForExcellenceReport1999.pdf.

Undoubtedly, the two reports will contain some similarities. What is different now in 2010 from 1999, of course, is the statewide community college initiative, and the concerted efforts across the state by the legislature and the Indiana Commission of Higher Education, for greater transparency and clarity in articulation from the community college to the university, particularly in general education. And in this climate of political polarization and economic downturn, the drive to maximize savings while at the same time achieving higher effectiveness compounds the urgency to abandon business as usual. Change is in the offing and we as a campus have an excellent opportunity to harness the impending changes to strengthen IU South Bend’s special character. I’m eager to partner with you and with central administration in this effort.

As the wintry weather advances and the holiday season approaches, I am reminded of the many things for which I am grateful; family, friends, my country and all its privileges, and for IU South Bend, the best of all possible places to work, and most especially, I am grateful to have you as colleagues. Best wishes to you and yours during this holiday season as you celebrate according to your traditions, and may 2011 be full of joy.

Sincerely,

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

Elizabeth Bennion, Associate Professor of Political Science, will present the next Deans Seminar. The event will take place at noon in the UCET Classroom on January 28th. She will speak about her work and the results of two studies regarding getting out the vote in her talk entitled “How to (and not to) register voters: Results from two large-scale field experiments” (abstract). As always, drinks will be available and please feel free to bring your lunch. I look forward to seeing all of you there.

Kaufman Lecture: Kathleen Karlyn

The annual Kaufman Lecture was held to a packed audience on November 18, with English/Cinema Studies Professor Kathleen Karlyn (picture above, center; flanked by Elaine Roth, left, and Catherine Borshuk, right) of the University of Oregon presenting. Her lecture talked about the representations of mothers and daughters on screen as well as feminism in film presenting. Her lecture talked about the representations of mothers and daughters on screen as well as feminism in film.

Kudos

The WNIT (PBS) documentary about the IU South Bend Toradze Piano Studio and Alexander Toradze, “Kicking the Notes the Toradze Way,” won two regional Emmy awards at the November 6 regional Midwest Emmy awards in Chicago. The Emmys were for Outstanding Achievement for Entertainment Programs - Arts/Entertainment Program or Program Series and Outstanding Achievement for Individual Excellence Off Camera: Editing - Non-News (awarded to the Editor, Tim Schaller). [link] On November 13, the WNIT documentary won the Indiana Broadcasters Association Spectrum Award for Special Interest Cultural Programming, beating out two Indianapolis stations.

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The IU South Bend River Commons Community Building has received the prestigious LEED-Silver status III recognition by the United States Green Building Council. In addition, the building was noted in the American School and University magazine for its design.

Kudos to Marjorie Rusche who was a guest artist at the 13th London New Wind Festival on November 19. She was the guest artist in the London New Wind Ensemble Brand New Music for Winds performance, performing two of her compositions “Radiant Inferno from ‘Eclipse’ for Solo Piano” and “Tone Poems for Bassoon and Piano.” Marjorie is also the 2010-11 recipient of the ASCAPPLUS Award in the Concert Music Division from the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers.

Brooke Bodart was awarded a $2,250 Indiana Campus Compact grant for the Dental Hygiene Center for the Homeless Day project.

Congratulations to Andrea Rusnock, Assistant Professor of Art History, on her book Social Realist Painting During the Stalinist Era (1934-1941): The High Art of Mass Art that was published in December by Edwin Mellen Press (Lewiston, NY).

Grants Deadline

The next deadline (last of the academic year) for internal Faculty Research and Curriculum Development Grants is February 25, 2011. Proposals are reviewed by the Research and Development Committee. Proposals should be submitted to the Office of Research in Academic Affairs. Contact Erika Zynda for more information (ezynda@iusb.edu 520-4181).

We extend our best wishes to David Fred, Associate Professor of Accounting, School of Business and Economics who will be retiring at the end of December after 33 years of service to IU South Bend and its students. We thank him for his contributions.

The Center for a Sustainable Future has been chosen by the National Wildlife Federation’s Campus Ecology Program as one of the case studies featured in its 2010 Case Studies release.