Largest Beginning Class in Six Years
Fall enrollment brought to campus the largest beginning class in six years. 982 new students enrolled which is a 7.6% increase over last year. They are also better prepared with an 8% increase in SAT scores of 1000 or more. Overall enrollment is down slightly mostly due to a decline in students 20 and older who are returning to work as the economy improves. The total number of students at IU South Bend is 5,385, a decrease of 4.4% from last year. Students are taking 64,522 credit hours which is down 3.1% from last year. The incoming class had a 14.4% increase in the number of Hispanic students. 9.3% increase in the number of African-American students and an 8% increase in the number of students 18 years old and younger. River Crossing student housing at IU South Bend is at full occupancy for the second straight year.

DACA Decision
The start of the fall semester also brought controversy and uncertainty when the federal administration announced the end of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA) program. I joined IU President Michael McRobbie in my great disappointment in the decision and issued a statement to the campus saying that IU South Bend remains fully committed to ensuring a welcoming, safe, and civil community for all students. The Indiana Congressional delegation has already been contacted about our concerns and urged to pass legislation that puts the provisions of the DACA program into law. Our DACA students will continue to receive the full support and counsel of the university to help them through this difficult time.

Pfeil Field is a Winner
A large crowd on a beautiful day helped celebrate the opening of Pfeil Field, the new home of the IU South Bend women’s softball team. South Bend business and civic leader Richard Pfeil was recognized for his gift that funded improvements to the softball facility at Veterans Memorial Park. In recognition of his support, the City of South Bend named the softball venue Pfeil Field. IU South Bend will lease the field from the South Bend Board of Venues, Parks and Arts at no cost. The Titans defeated Ancilla College in the inaugural game. Go Titans!

Upcoming Events

IU South Bend Piano Studio
October 27
7 p.m.
Addicott/Joshi Performance Hall

Titans Basketball Doubleheader
October 28
Women’s team vs. IU Kokomo
1 p.m.
Men’s team vs. Andrews University
8 p.m.
Student Activities Center

The Liar
Performed by the IU South Bend Theatre and Dance Company
November 16-18
7:30 p.m.
November 19
2 p.m.
Campus Auditorium

Teddy Bear Concert
December 8
7 p.m.
Campus Auditorium
*Donate a new teddy bear to get your ticket.
New Vice Chancellor for New Division
Monica Porter has joined IU South Bend as Vice Chancellor for Student Engagement and Success. This is a new leadership position in a newly re-organized division that supports our efforts to improve student success, retention, and graduation. Dr. Porter comes to us from the University of Michigan – Dearborn where she served for the past ten years, most recently as Assistant Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management and Student Life. She is a native of Pontiac, Michigan and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Southern Illinois University and a Master of Science degree in Industrial/Organizational Psychology and a Ph.D. in Applied Behavioral Analysis from Western Michigan University. Previously, she served as the Special Assistant of Minority Affairs for the Governor of North Carolina, Department Chair for Social Sciences and an Assistant Psychology Professor at Saint Augustine University in North Carolina. She was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to teach in the Psychology Department at the University of Botswana in Gaborone. Welcome, Dr. Porter.

Bushnell Named Chancellor’s Professor
I am pleased to announce that Peter Bushnell has been named the 2017 Chancellor’s Professor at IU South Bend. Dr. Bushnell is a Professor of Physiology and has been teaching at IU South Bend since 1993. He is a distinguished researcher and part of a team that recently discovered the Greenland shark is at least 300 years old, making it the oldest living vertebra on earth. Peter has a Ph.D. in Medical Physiology from the University of Hawaii, a Master’s degree in Shark Physiology from the University of Miami, and a Bachelor’s degree in Zoology/Animal Physiology from the University of Maryland. He will be on sabbatical next semester and complete his Chancellor’s Professorship obligations in 2018. Congratulations, Peter.

Nursing Partnership with SMC
IU South Bend and Southwestern Michigan College (SMC) have started a partnership that will help students earn an associate degree and a bachelor’s degree in Nursing. Admissions standards and course sequences have been identified to allow students to graduate in four and a half years with both an RN from SMC and a BSN from IU South Bend. More hospitals are requiring nurses to hold a BSN, which prepares graduates to take on a wider variety of roles in the health care industry and to practice in all health care settings, such as critical care, outpatient care, and public health. Details of the Nursing pathway were worked out this summer with more agreements for associate to bachelor’s degrees planned for the future.

Input Sought for Continuing HLC Accreditation
Comments from the public are being sought in preparation for the upcoming evaluation of IU South Bend by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). The HLC reviews institutions every 10 years to ensure that they continue to meet the criteria for accreditation. The public is invited to submit comments regarding the quality of IU South Bend or its academic programs to: Public Comment on Indiana University South Bend, Higher Learning Commission, 230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500, Chicago, IL 60604-1411. The public may also submit comments on HLC’s website at www.hlcommission.org/comment. All comments must be received by December 29, 2017.