Greetings,
I often tell people that it is the exceptional faculty at IU South Bend that make it a special place. A number of faculty members recently have distinguished themselves and the campus through their teaching, research and service. I am pleased to give you the details and other news in this edition of Notes from the Chancellor.

Upcoming Events

**March 24**
IU South Bend Forum by Scott McCloud
“Comics and Visual Communication”
7:30 p.m., Campus Auditorium
Tickets $3-$9

**March 26**
Toradze Piano Studio
Martin Endowed Professor in Piano
Alexander Toradze
7:30 p.m., Campus Auditorium
Tickets $3-$12

**March 31**
Euclid Quartet
Performing works by American composers
7:30 p.m., Campus Auditorium
Free Admission, Tickets Required

**April 8-21**
BFA Exhibition
Opening Reception // 4-6 p.m. April 8
Gallery Talk // 6 p.m. April 8
Ernestine M. Raclin
School of the Arts Gallery
12-5 Tues. – Fri. // 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Sat.
Free Admission

**April 22-24**
West Side Story
8 p.m., Campus Auditorium
Tickets $3-$9

**May 11**
Commencement Ceremonies
6 p.m., Joyce Center
University of Notre Dame

Spring Enrollment Records Broken

The spring 2010 semester at IU South Bend was another record-setter. According to official results, 7,812 students are enrolled which is an increase of 9 percent over last spring and breaks the previous record of 7,348 students set in the spring of 1993. Credit hours stand at 74,880 which is also a new record and an increase of more than 11 percent over last spring. At the IU South Bend Elkhart Center records were also set. For the spring semester, 795 students were enrolled which is a 27 percent increase over spring 2009. Students at the Elkhart Center are taking 4,153 credit hours which is nearly 30 percent higher than last spring. My thanks go to the faculty and staff for the effort they have put forth to recruit, retain and accommodate this historic number of students in both South Bend and Elkhart.

Budget Update

Enrollment growth helps but does not solve budget issues at IU South Bend. The recession has triggered significant cuts in state funding to higher education in Indiana, including Indiana University and IU South Bend. In total, IU South Bend’s 2009-11 budget was reduced by $2.5 million or about 6 percent. Cost savings have been painful. They have come from a salary freeze, reductions in travel budgets, cutting of staff positions, consolidation of operations and frugal spending. However, they have not come from the classroom. IU South Bend will continue to look for ways to re-allocate current assets in order to maintain high quality academic programs. Hopefully, the steps that have been taken will allow IU South Bend to move forward, even though uncertain times still prevail.

New Mission Statement Approved

The IU Board of Trustees approved the new mission statement for IU South Bend. The mission statement was developed by the Campus Directions Committee in conjunction with the new strategic plan for the campus. It reads:

*Indiana University South Bend is the comprehensive undergraduate and postgraduate campus that serves North Central Indiana and is a regional campus of Indiana University. The campus values excellence in teaching, student-faculty interaction, research and creative activity, diversity and inclusivity, a global perspective, and collaboration in life-long learning. IU South Bend develops engaged citizens prepared to build strong communities.*
New Deans Announced

Elizabeth E. Dunn and Vicki Bloom have been named as new deans at IU South Bend. Dunn will replace the retiring Lynn Williams as the dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Bloom will be the dean of the Franklin D. Schurz Library and Media Services. She is replacing the retiring Michele Russo. Bloom is currently the head of reference services, Rivera Library at the University of California, Riverside. Dunn is interim dean at the College of Liberal Arts and Letters, Bemidji State University, Bemidji, Minn. Both women will begin their new roles on July 1.

Founders Day Awards

Two professors from IU South Bend will be honored during Founders Day ceremonies at IU in Bloomington on April 16. Ann Grens, associate professor of molecular and developmental biology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will receive the President’s Award for outstanding teaching, research or service.

Beth Kern, professor of accounting in the School of Business and Economics will receive the Herman Frederic Lieber Award for distinguished teaching. Grens and Kern join an elite group of only 12 other professors in the entire IU system who are being recognized with Founders Day awards. I am always proud of the representation of faculty members at IU South Bend at this prestigious awards ceremony.

National Science Foundation Grants

Physics professor Jerry Hinnefeld has received a $444,857 grant from the National Science Foundation for a project entitled “MRI-R2: Development of a Detection System for the Recoil Mass Separator (RMS) St. George.” Hinnefeld will direct the grant which is funded through the American Recovery and Investment Act. The grant supports the development of a particle detection system for use with the RMS St. George which is being constructed at the University of Notre Dame.

And associate professors Andy Schnabel and Deb Marr in the Biology Department have received funding for $670,000 from the National Science Foundation to be used for laboratory renovations in Northside Hall. The renovations will facilitate greenhouse and microscopy studies and allow expansion of research and curriculum. Congratulations to Jerry, Andy and Deb for this wonderful news for the campus.

Women’s Volleyball Added to Varsity Athletics

IU South Bend is adding women’s volleyball to its varsity athletics programs. The inaugural season will begin in the fall of 2011-12.

The search for a part-time head coach is underway. The coach will oversee the transition from club volleyball during the 2010-11 school year to the varsity level the following year. My thanks go to Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs and Enrollment management Jeff Jones and Executive Director of Athletics and Activities Gary Demski for bringing varsity women’s volleyball to campus.

Awards and Recognition

The IU South Bend debate team continues to do well in its first season in 27 years. The team recently placed ninth in the state tournament. Notre Dame finished eighth and IU Bloomington finished seventh.

Julio Hernando, assistant professor of Spanish, has received international recognition for his recently published book on the medieval Spanish poem, El Cid.

Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs Alfred Guillaume received a Drum Major Award for Community Service at the community breakfast celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in South Bend.

The IU South Bend Alumni Association and the IU South Bend Student Nurses Association co-sponsored a blood drive that produced 76 donors for the South Bend Medical Foundation. As a result they won the Constituent Society Award from the IU Alumni Association.

Students Jeremy Ong and Jordan Cavitt were selected to perform with the prestigious College Band Directors National Intercollegiate Band 2010. The competition only invites 80 students from six states in the Midwest.

Student-athletes Ben Werner, Mark Comparato and Katie Hacker from the Titan’s men’s and women’s basketball teams were named first team All-Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference.

As you can see, exciting things are happening at IU South Bend. Please let me know if you have any questions or suggestions as IU South Bend continues its mission as the only public, bachelor’s and master’s degree granting institution of higher learning in Michiana.

Sincerely,

Una Mae Reck
Chancellor // IU South Bend