Greetings,

I am writing to you as IU South Bend wraps up another successful academic year. We have put our caps and gowns away after a wonderful graduation ceremony and are now in the midst of summer classes and preparing for the fall semester. This newsletter gives me a chance to bring you up-to-date on the latest highlights from campus. So, let’s get started.

Commencement Ceremonies Honor more than 1,000 Graduates

The class of 2005 at IU South Bend had 1,074 graduates. During commencement ceremonies, IU President Adam Herbert and I had the privilege of conferring 635 bachelor’s degrees, 227 master’s degrees and 212 associate degrees. More than 5,000 people joined the graduates at the Joyce Center to help celebrate the hard work, sacrifice and success of these dedicated students. During his charge to the class, President Herbert told the graduates, “The transforming power of education has made each of you a different person. Your education at IU has brought you in contact with the great works of the past and has prepared you to meet the challenges of the future.”

IU South Bend Approves Mission Statement

The Academic Senate has approved a new mission statement for IU South Bend. The mission statement is the result of many months of hard work, study and thought by the entire campus community. It reads:

Indiana University South Bend is the comprehensive undergraduate and graduate regional campus of Indiana University that is committed to serving north central Indiana and southwestern Michigan. Its mission is to create, disseminate, preserve, and apply knowledge. The campus is committed to excellence in teaching, learning, research, and creative activity; to strong liberal arts and sciences programs and professional disciplines; to acclaimed programs in the arts and nursing/health professions; and to diversity, civic engagement, and a global perspective. IU South Bend supports student learning, access and success for a diverse residential and non-residential student body that includes under-represented and international students. The campus fosters student-faculty collaboration in research and learning. Committed to the economic development of its region and state, Indiana University South Bend meets the changing educational and research needs of the community and serves as a vibrant cultural resource. (April 2005)

The mission statement will be submitted to the IU Board of Trustees and the Higher Education Commission for final approval this fall.

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As we look ahead to the 2005-06 academic year, you can start to plan your reading. The campus theme for the coming year is “The Mutable Body” and the book selected for the popular One Book, One Campus program is “Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?” by Phillip K. Dick. The campus theme is a means of making connections across programs and disciplines on campus including lectures, exhibitions, class discussion and other activities. Last year’s campus theme was “Media and Democracy.” For more information go to http://www.iusb.edu/~libg/onebook.

IU South Bend has the only Informatics major in Michiana. Informatics is the study and application of information technology (IT) to the arts, sciences and business. Informatics equips students to study IT, consider its social implications and find ways to use technology to solve problems. Informatics began at IU South Bend in 2002 and currently has 30 enrolled students. The first Informatics major graduated in December of 2004. Two others graduated this May.

IU South Bend recently won the Midwest Model European Union competition held in Indianapolis. A delegation of eleven IU South Bend students defeated teams from Notre Dame, Ball State, Purdue, IUPUI and the defending champions from the University of Missouri to win the “Best Delegation” award. The students took on the roles of prime minister, president, ambassador, commissioner and diplomat to form policy, resolve disputes and chart the course for European unity.

The IU South Bend men’s soccer program has been accepted into the Midwest Alliance Soccer Conference. The MASC is made up of club teams at various colleges throughout the nation. The Titans will join the Northern Division which includes Michigan, Michigan State, Northwestern, Western Michigan and others. The team will be coached by former Goshen High School coach Shek Borkowski. Congratulations also go out to the IU South Bend women’s basketball team for winning the 2005 Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference championship.

IU South Bend Video Available for Community Presentations

An 11 1/2 minute video highlighting IU South Bend academics, student life and facilities is available free of charge on DVD or VHS upon request. The video features students and professors telling the IU South Bend story in their own words. The video is ideal for presentations to community groups. A university representative can also be scheduled to present the video and answer questions. Please call Ken Baierl, Director of Communications and Marketing, at (574) 520-4560 to make arrangements.

IU South Bend Wins “Best Delegation” in European Union Competition

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, master’s and bachelor’s degree granting institution of higher education in Michiana.

Sincerely,

Una Mae Reck
Chancellor, Indiana University South Bend