Greetings,
The campus looks beautiful covered in a fresh white blanket of snow. Over the winter IU South Bend has been busy laying the groundwork for exciting projects and events coming up this later this year. I am pleased to give you an update in this newsletter.

Upcoming Events

**March 4**
Avalon String Quartet
4 p.m. Recital Hall

**March 10 - 18**
Spring Break

**March 22**
IUSB Jazz Ensemble
8 p.m. Campus Auditorium

**March 22 - April 6**
Student Art Exhibition
Raclin School of the Arts Gallery

**March 25**
Blaise Magniere, violin
4 p.m. Recital Hall

**March 30**
Alicia Purcell, soprano
8 p.m. Recital Hall

**April 3**
Cheg-Hou Lee, cello
8 p.m. Recital Hall

For tickets call (574) 520-4203

Hammes Information Commons

Thanks to the generosity of Jerry and Dorene Hammes, construction will get underway this spring for the Hammes Information Commons in the Franklin D. Schurz Library at IU South Bend. The Hammes Information Commons will occupy 4,700 square feet on the first floor and will feature the most comprehensive collection of print and digital information resources on campus.

Reference librarians, computer aides, and multimedia production consultants will be available in one place to assist students and faculty with research, writing papers, tabulating data, designing Web pages and developing multimedia presentations. In addition to individual computers, collaborative workstations will be available so students can work together and faculty can instruct small groups. The area will be particularly helpful for under-prepared students who may not have the technology or research skills needed to be successful or may not own up-to-date computers at home. A dedication ceremony will be scheduled this fall when construction is complete. Thank you, Jerry and Dorene, for making this wonderful resource available to students at IU South Bend for generations to come.

Toradze Piano Institute

IU South Bend will be the center of the classical music world in May when the Toradze Piano Institute once again gathers on campus. Every two years Alexander Toradze, the Ernestine M. Raclin School of the Arts, Martin Endowed Professor in Piano, brings some of the most promising pianists in the world to campus to study in master classes with an elite guest faculty.

This year Toradze is bringing back some his renowned alumni from previous institutes, including Alexander Korsantia, Maxim Mogilevsky and George Vatchnadze. The institute runs from May 7-12, 2007. Public performances by the Toradze Piano Institute Fellows and members of the Toradze Piano Studio will be held on May 9 and 10. On May 11, a Toradze Reunion Performance, featuring multiple generations of the Toradze Piano Studio, will take place.

All performances begin at 8 p.m. and will be held in the Campus Auditorium in Northside Hall at IU South Bend. The week will close with a performance by Alexander Toradze and members of the Toradze Piano Studio in concert with the South Bend Symphony Orchestra at the Morris Performing Arts Center on Saturday, May 12 at 8 p.m. For ticket information call (574) 520-4203.
Faculty Grants and Research

Faculty members at IU South Bend continue to receive grants to support their research. Assistant Professor of Informatics Murli Nair received a grant of $178,126 from the National Science Foundation for his work on “Sequence and Structural Patterns in RNA Splicing.”

Assistant Professor of Psychology Michelle Verges received both an IU South Bend Curriculum Development Grant of $3,000 and a grant from the Lilly Endowment Fund’s Indiana Campus Compact for $3,000 to support a service learning project on recycling plastic bags for her statistics class. In addition, she is the faculty director of an $800 student’s grant from the Indiana Campus Compact that funds a documentary of the project.

Former Director of International Programs Gabrielle Robinson received an IU International Exchange Affiliation Grant of $6,000 to set up an exchange program between IU South Bend and Western Galilee College in Acre, Israel.

Assistant Professor of Physics Ilan Levine’s research of dark matter has been approved as an official Fermilab National Accelerator Laboratory experiment. The project was proposed by Fermilab, the University of Chicago and IU South Bend. Levine received a $282,383 grant from the National Science Federation for this project. Congratulations to all.

IU South Bend Elkhart Center

As construction continued over the winter on the IU South Bend Elkhart Center, details were being worked out on getting the building, equipment, people, and classes ready for opening for the fall 2007 semester. Administrators, faculty, staff, architects, vendors, and contractors have been meeting to plan the move to the downtown Elkhart location.

People, equipment, furniture, files and other items will need to be moved from the current facility at SR 19 and Nappanee Street to the new building at 125 E. Franklin St. A new class schedule is being prepared, along with a marketing campaign and plans for a dedication.

The fundraising committee led by business leaders Art Decio and Bob Deputy has also continued its efforts and donations now top $4 million. In addition to funding the construction of the building, money also is being raised for scholarships. This project has been an amazing journey thanks to the generosity and commitment of Elkhart civic and business leaders.

South Bend Engman Natatorium

Renovation of the South Bend Engman Natatorium at 1044 W. Washington St. is expected to begin this spring. Architectural plans include a 1,500 square-foot addition, a peace garden, renovations to the existing structure, and rooms for public gatherings, lectures and displays. The construction is funded by the city of South Bend and the South Bend Heritage Foundation.

The IU South Bend Civil Rights Heritage Center will be housed there beginning in fall 2008 to provide programming and educational opportunities for students and the community. In addition, IU South Bend is seeking a National Endowment for the Humanities grant to help fund the Civil Rights Heritage Center and the natatorium as a national cultural center focusing on the history of the civil rights movement across the northern United States.

Integrated Image Initiative

IU South Bend and the other IU campuses are building a stronger visual identity through the Integrated Image Initiative. In order to have a consistent look and take advantage of the power of the IU name, campuses are using a new IU signature on printed material and marketing pieces. The signature is on the bottom of the front page of this newsletter. IU South Bend is no longer using the original logo or the word mark. Use of the academic seal is being limited. Over the next 12 months the campus will be moving to the new look.

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 education in Michiana.

Sincerely,

Una Mae Reck
Chancellor, Indiana University South Bend