Greetings,

The fall semester is underway and history is being made. IU South Bend received its largest single donor gift ever and the incoming class of students has the highest grade point average on record. Plus, a professor receives a research grant of nearly $1 million and an international opera star is coming to campus. I’m pleased to share those stories and more in this edition of Notes from the Chancellor. -Una Mae Reck // Chancellor, IU South Bend

Upcoming Events

Gloria Kaufman Memorial Lecture
Novelist/poet Marge Piercy
2 p.m. November 2
University Grill
Followed by reception and book signing

Swan Lake
7:30 p.m. November 7
Campus Auditorium

LOOK! Scholarship Art Sale
12-9 p.m. November 8, 9
9 a.m. – 6 p.m. November 10
East Lounge, Northside Hall

Opera Star Denyce Graves
7:30 p.m. November 9
Campus Auditorium

“Vienna” by the Euclid Quartet
4 p.m. November 18
Campus Auditorium

“Teddy Bear Concert”
7:30 p.m. December 7
Campus Auditorium

For additional arts ticket information call 520-4203.

Judd Leighton School of Business and Economics

Indiana University President Michael A. McRobbie was on campus recently to announce the naming of the IU South Bend School of Business and Economics in honor of former South Bend businessman, civic leader and philanthropist Judd Leighton. The school is now known as the Judd Leighton School of Business and Economics in recognition of the largest single donor gift in the history of the campus. The Judd Leighton Foundation, Inc. made a gift of $4 million to support undergraduate scholarships, graduate fellowships, faculty development and the creation of two positions focused on retention and student success. Three experiential learning labs are also planned: Creative Design Lab, Financial Trading Lab, and E-commerce Consulting Lab. I am grateful to the Judd Leighton Foundation for its generosity and the confidence they have in IU South Bend. This gift will help attract outstanding students and faculty, it will provide for new programs focused on retention and student success, and it will propel the school forward to achieve even greater goals in the future.

Leighton Foundation Challenge Grant

The gift agreement also includes a challenge grant of $1 million to help fund the completion of the renovation of the Administration Building which houses the Judd Leighton School of Business and Economics. A campaign to raise the $1 million match is underway. The challenge grant allows each donation to be matched dollar for dollar. I will be asking the community and the campus to double their investment in IU South Bend by contributing to the campaign. The match must be met by December 31, 2013 but I am hopeful it will be completed before then. If you are interested in contributing please contact Dina Harris, director of development at dharris@iusb.edu or 574-520-4131.

Pecina Gift for Dental Education

South Bend dentist Dr. Roger S. Pecina has donated $300,000 to the new dental education wing at IU South Bend that will be located in the renovated Education and Arts Building. In recognition of his donation the dental education academic and clinical spaces will be named the Roger S. Pecina Dental Educational Clinic and Afdent Classrooms. Dr. Pecina’s gift is part of a $1 million campaign launched by IU South Bend to equip the dental hygiene wing with the educational tools and technology needed by today’s students studying oral health. Thank you, Dr. Pecina.

Cogan Gift for Summer Theatre Series in Elkhart

Doloris Cogan of Elkhart has given a gift to IU South Bend that will be a gift to theatre-goers in Elkhart and beyond. Ms. Cogan has donated a total of $200,000 to establish and support the Doloris C. Cogan IU South Bend Summer Theatre Series at the Lerner Theatre in Elkhart. Her donation will
Fall Enrollment

Fall 2012 enrollment figures show 8,490 students are taking classes which is 1.25 percent ahead of last year. Credit hours stand at 79,540 which is about 1 percent behind last year. Headcount is the second highest in history and credit hours are at the third highest mark ever. These are strong numbers considering that admissions standards have been tightened to improve retention and graduation rates. The high school grade point average for incoming students has surpassed 3.0 for the first time in campus history. Minority students increased from 19 to 24 percent. Transfers from Ivy Tech increased 35 percent from 88 last year to 119 this year. And 17 percent of full-time students are now taking 15 or more credit hours per semester. In 2007, that number was about 13 percent. The increase reflects an effort across campus to help students take the credits they need to graduate in four years.

$987,000 Grant for Prayer Research

Associate Professor of Psychology Kevin Ladd has been awarded a grant of $987,058 from the John Templeton Foundation to support his research of prayer through the Social Psychology of Religion Lab at IU South Bend. The research will include the use of eye-tracking equipment to explore how people’s spiritual condition relates to how they literally see and interact with their environment. Congratulations, Professor Ladd.

Education and Arts Building

The $22 million renovation of the Education and Arts Building will be completed this spring and will open for classes next fall. A dedication ceremony led by IU President Michael McRobbie is scheduled for April 17, 2013. The renovated facility will be the new home of the School of Education, fine arts programs from the Ernestine M. Raclin School of the Arts, and the dental hygiene program. I’m looking forward to the completion of this wonderful building and the celebration.

Opera Star Denyce Graves Comes to Campus

International opera star Denyce Graves will be on campus on November 9 and 10 for a public performance and to teach a masterclass to selected vocal students. The mezzo-soprano has been heard in the world’s finest opera houses. She is best known for playing opposite Placido Domingo in Carmen and Samson et Delila. USA Today called her “an operatic superstar of the 21st century.” Tickets for her performance on Friday, Nov. 9, are on sale at the Box Office at 574-520-4203.

Awards and Recognition

Karen L. White, associate vice chancellor for Student Services, recently received the Charlie Nelms Alumni Award from Indiana University. The award is given to an IU graduate who has worked diligently to affect change in his or her workplace and community.

Assistant Professor of Psychology Daniel DeBrule has been selected to receive the 2012 Early Career Psychologist Award from the Indiana Psychological Association.

Indiana University and the IU Foundation presented Franklin D. Schurz Jr. with the Cornerstone Award which recognizes individuals who have been instrumental in the success of a single IU philanthropic initiative for a campus. Schurz was honored for the Opportunity Scholarship he established at IU South Bend in 2003 to address low enrollment and retention rates among Hispanic and African-American students.

South Bend businessman and philanthropist Kurt Simon has been awarded the Chancellor’s Medal. The medal recognizes contributions that have helped advance the university and its mission.

The 2011 edition of Aspire magazine won a bronze Circle of Excellence Award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. Aspire in the annual magazine published by the Ernestine M. Raclin School of the Arts.

Five local residents have been named sustainability fellows of IU South Bend’s Center for a Sustainable Future for 2012-13. Each year the center selects fellows who work with the faculty and staff on a variety of sustainability projects and initiatives. They are: Jessica Mikels-Carrasco, Kelly Hofferth, Kathleen Petitjean, Myles Robertson, and Willow Weatherall.

IU South Bend women’s volleyball player Krystle Troyer was recently named the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference Volleyball Player of the Week.

Five IU South Bend women’s basketball players were named to the CCAC All-Academic Team. They are: Kayla George, Leah Meyer, Courtney Simpson, Elyse Lefebvre, and Staci Funkhouser.

Second year music student Lawrence Mitchell-Matthews won first place in the Dr. J. LanYe American Spirituals Collegiate Solo Voice Competition held at Lake Erie College. As the winner, he will perform next summer with the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra in western New York.