USI’s Bigham wins award

The Indiana Historical Society honored Dr. Darrel Bigham, professor of history and director of Historic Southern Indiana, with its 2002 Hoosier Historian Award in Indianapolis in January.

“We have been selecting individuals around the state that we feel have made significant contributions to Indiana history,” said Tom Krasean, IHSAwards Committee member. “This year, there was no doubt Darrel Bigham fit that bill very well.”

The annual award recognizes “distinguished contributions to the world of scholarship.” Bigham, Krasean noted, has dedicated 30 years of his life to the study, promotion, and dissemination of Indiana history.

“He is a historian who’s a scholar,” Krasean added. “He also is capable of working with folks on the local level and has their respect as well.”

Bigham was instrumental in the formation of Historic Southern Indiana, an outreach program of USI that seeks to identify, protect and preserve, enhance, and promote the historical, cultural, and natural resources of the 26 counties that constitute the historically distinctive southern third of the state.

Appointed by President Bill Clinton, Bigham also serves on the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission and is chair of its Education Committee. The commission is charged with planning the 2009 celebration of Lincoln’s bicentennial. Lincoln’s boyhood home, Lincoln City, Ind., is in Historic Southern Indiana’s 26-county area.

As an author, Bigham has published a number of works, including Images of America: Evansville; We Ask Only for a Fair Trial: A History of the Black Community in Evansville; Towns and Villages of the Lower Ohio; and Reflections on a Heritage: The German Americans in Southwestern Indiana. He co-wrote Images of America: New Harmony, Indiana, and his On Jordan’s Banks: The Aftermath of Emancipation on the Lower Ohio is forthcoming from University Press of Kentucky.

His recent scholarly activities also include serving as chair of the Indiana Council for History Education, as president of the Indiana Association of Historians, as president of the Vanderburgh County Historical Society Board of Directors, as Vanderburgh County historian, and on the Organization of American Historians Newsletter Editorial Board.

Bigham joined the USI faculty in 1970, and his areas of interest include community/regional history of the Midwest, American history since 1815 with emphasis on social and intellectual history, and African American history.

He holds a BA from Messiah College, was a Rockefeller Fellow at Harvard Divinity School, and earned a PhD at University of Kansas.

The Indiana Historical Society, a nonprofit organization, has worked since 1830 to collect, preserve, interpret, and share stories of the state’s history.

Matthew Shepard’s mom to speak

Judy Shepard, Matthew Shepard’s mother, will speak on campus March 4. Matthew, a 21-year-old college student, was murdered in an anti-gay hate crime in Wyoming.

Her presentation will begin at 7 p.m. in Carter Hall. The Activities Programming Board is sponsoring the event with support from USI Spectrum, the Office of Student Development Programs, the Multicultural Center, and University of Evansville Pride.

“A PB is very excited to assist in raising awareness about contemporary issues that today’s society faces,” said Debra Smith, APB president. “We feel it important for students to understand the vicious impact hate crimes have on our world. This is an opportunity for Judy Shepard to share the story of the tragic loss of her son, Matthew Shepard - a victim of a hate crime.”

The brutal 1998 attack on Matthew focused the nation’s attention on the growing epidemic of hate crimes, and the Shepard family received tens of thousands of letters and e-mails of support.

In the aftermath of his death, the family started the Matthew Shepard Foundation. His mother serves as executive director, and the foundation helps carry on Matthew’s legacy by embracing the causes he championed, including working for gay and lesbian equality and helping to prevent hate crimes.

The prevention of hate crimes has become the focus of Judy Shepard’s work. She speaks to audiences nationwide about what they can do to make their schools and communities safer for everyone, regardless of race, sex, religion, or sexual orientation.

She stresses the dangers of hate language, how hate is a learned behavior, and that it can be unlearned. Her goal is to educate and replace hate with understanding, acceptance, and compassion.

Actively involved with Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, she has urged high school officials to make schools safer for gay students by promoting tolerance and reprimanding students who harass gay students.

She also has appeared in two Human Rights Campaign public service television announcements aimed at curbing anti-gay violence and promoting a greater understanding of gay issues.

Her speech at USI is free and open to the public. For more information, contact the Office of Student Development Programs, 812/465-7167 or connect@usi.edu.

Program addressing market manipulation

A 1992 graduate in economics, who is the staff attorney in the Division of Enforcement for the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington, D.C., will present a School of Business Executive-in-Residence Program Wednesday, February 19.

J. Edward Wicht’s presentation will focus on the SEC’s enforcement of the nation’s securities laws, particularly those per-
taining to accounting fraud and market manipulation. He will deliver two free public forums in Carter Hall. The first will begin at 9 a.m., and the second will start at 11 a.m.

Awarded a Master of Laws with highest honors from George Washington University School of Law in 1997, Wicht graduated summa cum laude from Indiana University School of Law in 1995.

Before joining the SEC’s Division of Enforcement in 2002, he worked as an associate attorney for Zuckerman Spaeder LLP in Washington, where he was responsible for white collar criminal, complex civil, and legal ethics matters.

He also worked as an adjunct professor at George Washington University School of Law, where he taught legal research and writing in the first-year curriculum.

In Evansville, Wicht worked as an associate attorney at Bowers Harrison Kent & Miller LLP and as a law clerk at Noffsinger Price Bradley & Shively LLP.

The public is invited to attend a noon luncheon with the executive in residence. Reservations, $12, are available by calling 812/465-7001. The reservation deadline is Monday, February 17.

Reading series adds an author

The RopeWalk Reading Series will feature author Jude Roy at 7 p.m., Thursday, February 20, in Kleymeyer Hall in the Liberal Arts Center. Tony Ardizzone’s reading, originally planned February 20, has been rescheduled to 7 p.m. March 20, also in Kleymeyer Hall.

The son of an illiterate sharecropper and barely literate mother, Roy was born and raised in Chatagnier, La., a rural town about 40 miles northwest of Lafayette.

He spent six years in the Navy before earning a bachelor’s and a master’s from University of Louisiana at Lafayette and an MFA in fiction writing from George Mason University in Fairfax, Va., where he studied under Richard Bausch and Alan Cheuse.

His stories have been anthologized in Sapphire Magazine, Way South, The Dead Mule, and The Fiction Review, and his fiction has appeared in The Southern Review, American Lungs,” will appear in a forthcoming issue of the Southern Indiana Review.

Roy’s poetry also has been published in many print and online resources, including Wilmington Blues, Way South, 12th Planet, Whispers & Shouts, Niedermagse, Prism International, Eclectica, and Kansas English. His poem, “He Dances with Accordion Lungs,” will appear in a forthcoming issue of the Southern Indiana Review.

The RopeWalk Reading Series is made possible through the support of RopeWalk Writers Retreat, the Southern Indiana Review, USI Society for Arts & Humanities, National Endowment for the Arts, Indiana Arts Commission, and USI Student Writers’ Union. Additional readings in the series are planned March 3, March 20, and April 14.

All readings in the RopeWalk Reading Series are free and open to the public.

Symposium to consider corporate scandals

Dr. Stephen Sullivan, associate professor of philosophy, will moderate “The Lessons of Enron and Other Corporate Scandals” at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, February 20, in Carter Hall.

The symposium will feature several USI faculty discussing the issue, including Dr. Philip Fisher, dean of the School of Business; Dr. Robert Hartl, associate professor of finance; Dr. Steve Cox, professor of economics; Dr. Dane Partridge, associate professor of management; and Dr. Steven Williams, assistant professor of sociology.

After a short introduction to the topic, each panelist will make a 12- to 15-minute statement. Questions from the audience will follow.

The symposium is free and open to the public.

Historical interpretation focus of workshop

Amy Jordan Webb, director of the Heritage Tourism program for the National Trust for Historic Preservation, will be the speaker at Historic Southern Indiana’s interpretation development workshop March 5 at The New Harmony Inn.

The workshop, “The Big Picture: Interpretation at the Site, Community, and Regional Level,” will focus on how sites can improve their interpretation at community and regional levels.

Through the workshop, HSI hopes to foster new ideas for partnerships and collaborations. It is open to interpreters; administrators; volunteers; naturalists at historic, museum, and natural sites; and tourism professionals.

Webb provides technical assistance in heritage tourism development and marketing to state and regional efforts, heritage areas, and Main Street communities across the country. She plans to discuss how a site can improve its story by telling it in the context of the community and region in which it is located. She also will provide examples of successful collaborations from across the country.

Registration for the workshop is $40 and can be made by calling HSI, 812/465-7014 or visiting www.usi.edu/hsi.

HSI’s service area includes the 26 counties between the Ohio River and U.S. 50. For the benefit of visitors and citizens, HSI seeks to preserve, enhance, and promote the historic, natural, and recreation resources of the region.

Names in the news

Achievements

Peggy Graul, MSN, RN, coordinator of Continuing Education for the School of Nursing and Health Professions, was appointed an accreditation appraiser for the American Nurses Credentialing Center, the national accrediting organization for providers, approvers, and programs in continuing nursing education. To prepare for her role as a site visitor, she will attend the center’s Appraiser Update Meeting in Washington, D.C., in April.

In sympathy

The University community extends sympathy to the family of Seymour Brodsky, assistant professor emeritus of communications, whose wife Ruth, 77, Henderson, died February 11. Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday, February 14, at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church. Friends may call until 9:30 a.m. Friday at Rudy-Rowland Funeral Home.

Expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to St. Paul’s Episcopal Church St. Anne’s Guild, the Salvation Army, or the American Cancer Society.
In appreciation

“We thank the USI family for kindness and consideration shown us after the death of Vivian’s father Clinton Smith. We appreciate every card and other expression of sympathy and concern. Your thoughtfulness means a great deal to us.”

- Dr. Tom Pickering, dean of the Bower-Suhrheinrich School of Education and Human Services, and Vivian Pickering

FYI

Public readings

The RopeWalk Winter Retreat will present public readings by two award-winning authors February 22.

The free event featuring Tony Ardizzone, professor of English at Indiana University, and Paulette Roeske, USI lecturer in English, will be held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Murphey Auditorium in New Harmony. (The location has changed.) A reception will follow. For more information, visit www.ropewalk.org.

Bluebird trail

The University will host its annual Bluebird Trail Cleanup Day at 9 a.m. February 22, and volunteers are invited to help prepare the trail's nesting boxes for occupancy.

Participants should wear weather-appropriate clothing, boots, and gloves, and meet on campus at the Grimes House on Bennett Lane. For more information, contact Dr. Chuck Price, chair of the Department of Teacher Education, 812/464-1939 or cprice@usi.edu.

NAMI seminar

Larry Back, academic services analyst in the Computer Center, and his wife Rhonda will lead a National Alliance for the Mentally Ill Family-to-Family Training Seminar beginning March 3.

The free 12-week program, presented locally by NAMI Evansville, is for family members or others caring for individuals with a mental illness such as bipolar disorder, depression, schizophrenia, obsessive compulsive disorder, panic or anxiety disorder, borderline personality disorder, or schizoaffective disorder.

Classes will be held from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Mondays at Old North United Methodist Church, 4201 Stringtown Road. For additional information or to enroll, call 812/423-4333. Click here to visit the NAMI National Web site. (www.nami.org/family/index.html)

Boy Scouts

The University will provide area Boy Scouts an opportunity to earn merit badges in chemistry Saturday, February 15, when they will participate in experiments and activities from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in a variety of locations on campus.

Hospitality day

USI will host a Southern Hospitality Day February 22, when prospective students and their families will visit campus. For registration or additional information, call 812/464-1765 or 800/467-1965.

Newsletter deadline

Friday, February 14, is the deadline for submitting information for the next online issue of University Notes. Submissions received after the deadline will be published at the discretion of the editorial staff.

Submissions may be made via e-mail to Libby L. Keeling, associate editor. Submissions for the “Marketplace” column should be sent to Karen Altstadt, online editor.

Marketplace

For sale

1989 IROC Z 350 Camaro - lots of extras, needs minor TLC: $2,450. Call 305-0435, leave message.

Kitchen cabinets - cherry-colored, two-door cabinet with hunter green counter top: $50 OBO; corner cabinet, light color with hunter green counter top, may be used as lower or upper cabinet: $75 OBO. Call 465-7110.

Sofa - great condition, purchased at Value City in July: $250 OBO. Call Gretchen, Ext. 1755.

Twin bed headboard, footboard, and side rails - solid oak. Two matching sets: $50 each. Call Laura, Ext. 1269 or 985-9163.

Fund raiser

Big Brothers/Big Sisters Bowl for Kids' Sake - February 23, 1:30 p.m., Diamond Lanes. Pull a team (one captain and four team members) together and participate in The College Bowl competition. There is no cost to bowl (one game and shoes compliments of Diamond Lanes). Each team member to solicit a minimum $5 donation for Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Door prizes and incentive prizes. Information: 425-6076. Team packets available at A Iumni and Volunteer Services, WA 104A.

Volunteers needed

Special Olympics is looking for 20 to 30 volunteers to serve as assistant track and field coaches. No experience necessary. Requirements are patience and a positive attitude. Practices will be held every Sunday (except April 20), March 9 through May 4, 2 to 4 p.m., Bosse High School. The track meet is May 10 at Central High School. If interested, contact Doug J. Balder, head coach, 812/985-2749 or e-mail dbalder481@aol.com.

EDITOR'S NOTE: "Marketplace," a free service available to University employees and retirees, publishes information of a non-commercial nature that may include items for sale or rent, desired items or services, available services, free items, and fund raisers. The editorial staff reserves the right to decline any submission and to enforce the column deadline.

Friday, February 14, is the deadline for submitting information for the next "Marketplace." Submissions may be made via e-mail to kaltstad@usi.edu.

University Notes is available online in a convenient, full-color format. To view Notes on the Web, visit:

www.usi.edu/newsinfo/newnotes.asp.

To cancel your print subscription to Notes, contact kaltstad@usi.edu.