USI’s Research, Innovation, Scholarship, and Creativity Program plans to award its first RISC grants in February and present a student showcase in April.

The new program is designed to encourage independent faculty-guided undergraduate research and creative projects. RISC grants will provide students with funding to initiate or continue such projects, and the RISC Showcase will provide an arena for them to present, demonstrate, or display their academic work to fellow students, faculty members, and the public.

“We would like to see more participation in undergraduate research campus-wide,” said Dr. Scott Gordon, RISC Committee chair. “We’re looking at touching people in every single discipline on campus.”

Friday, February 1, is the deadline for grant application. To apply, students should:

- Review the grant guidelines available at www.usi.edu/ctle.
- Identify an independent research or creative project to pursue or continue.
- Acquire a faculty sponsor.
- Submit a complete proposal as described in the guidelines to risc.program@usi.edu.

Grant awards will be determined by the RISC Committee that includes Ms. Karen Bawel, instructor in nursing; Dr. Hilary Braysmith, associate professor of art history; Dr. Daniel Friesner, assistant professor of economics; Mr. Matthew Graham, associate professor of English; Dr. Peggy Harrel, director of Graduate Studies and Sponsored Research; Dr. Leigh Anne Howard, assistant professor of communications; Dr. NiCole Keith, assistant professor of physical education; and Dr. Kent Scheller, assistant professor of physics.

Funding decisions will be based on a project’s ability to enhance the student’s development, impact learning, and correlate with educational goals. Roughly 20 grants, ranging from $250 to $500 will be awarded. Student winners will be notified a few weeks after the application deadline.

Support for the RISC Program is provided by Student Affairs and by USI Foundation through Academic Affairs. The Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence will administer the grants.

“The strength of this program is that the desire is there from the students, and the support is there from the faculty,” Gordon said. “We’re getting more students who are asking about projects with faculty, more students who are interested, and more who are qualified to participate in such projects.”

The RISC Showcase, Saturday, April 20, will feature a keynote speaker followed by individual student and panel presentations.

“It will give them the experience of developing a project, completing a project, and putting together a professional presentation,” Gordon said. “The experience the students will get is what they would see in graduate school or the professional community.”

The RISC Program also will serve as a clearinghouse for information about projects conducted at USI as well as research opportunities off-campus.

For additional information, contact Gordon at sgordon@usi.edu.
SIR: Bringing ‘the world to the Midwest’

A Chinese dissident, a Slovenian lawyer, and a Romanian professor are among the award-winning authors published in the Fall 2001 Issue of Southern Indiana Review, a national literary magazine produced by the University.

Works by Bei Ling, Novica Novakovic, and Lidija Dimkovska appear in the poetry section of the magazine that also includes fiction, nonfiction, reviews, art, and photography.

“Since we work at bringing Midwestern writers to the world, why not bring the world to the Midwest,” said Mr. James McGarrah, managing editor. “We’re all very proud of this issue. It contains poems and prose from some major writers who have not only produced good literature but made significant social contributions to their respective countries and consequently, to the world.”

The fall issue’s nearly 40 contributing writers, translators, artists, and photographers also include several with ties to USI. Their names, University affiliations, and contributions follow:

- Charles Barber, professor of political science: “Celebrating Pongal Andhra Pradesh, India,” “Studio of Barbara Hepworth” – photographs.
- James Blevins, dean emeritus of the School of Liberal Arts: “Fictions of Varying Degrees of Plausibility: Gore Vidal’s Survey of American History” – nonfiction.
- Carolyn Roth, special part-time instructor in art: “Sphinx at Fountainbleau,” “Private Rooms” – linoleum cut and print.
- Kathryn Waters, professor of art, served as art editor; Dr. Thomas Wilhelmus, associate dean of the School of Liberal Arts, as fiction/nonfiction editor; Mr. Matthew Graham, associate professor of English, as poetry editor; Ms.

Report gifts-in-kind to Foundation

Gifts-in-kind, charitable gifts of non-cash property, include such things as library books, oriental rugs, paintings, other fine art gifts, computer software, laboratory equipment, and real estate. Gifts of appreciated stock also are considered gifts-in-kind, and substantial tax benefits may be derived from such gifts.

Departments that have received a gift-in-kind in 2001 should notify USI Foundation to obtain a gift-in-kind form so the donor’s gift may be properly recognized and claimed as a tax deduction for 2001. Additional information and gift-in-kind forms are available by calling Ms. Ginny Bryant, senior administrative associate in Foundation, at extension 1658.

Pick up reserved ‘Family Day’ tickets

USI’s Staff Council will sponsor “Family Day with the Eagles” Saturday, December 15, when the Lady Eagles host Grace College at 5:15 p.m., and the Eagles host Oakland City University at 7:30 p.m. in the Physical Activities Center.

Employees who have reserved complimentary tickets should pick them up before 5 p.m. Friday, December 14, at the Physical Activities Center. Reserved complimentary tickets will not be available at the will-call window on game day.

For more information, call Mrs. Lois Stevens, Staff Council’s Employee Relations Committee chair and PAC coordinator, at extension 1054.

Mary Jane Schenk, manager, Donor Relations, as associate editor; and Ms. Patricia Aakhus, instructor in English, and Mr. H. Keith Wicker, instructor in English, as assistant editors.

“This literary magazine is one of the ways that our University has to gain national recognition and respect,” McGarrah said. “This is something we should all be proud of and support through subscriptions.”

The magazine price is $10 per copy. It is available at the USI Bookstore, Barnes & Noble Booksellers, The Golden Raintree Bookstore in New Harmony, Indiana. Southern Indiana Review also is available by mail: Send a mailing address and check to Southern Indiana Review, Liberal Arts Center, USI, 8600 University Blvd., Evansville, IN 47712. Yearly subscriptions – two issues – are available for $16.
Names in the news

Achievements

Mr. Lenny Dowhie, professor of art, has been invited to exhibit four new works in “Regional ’02,” a juried invitational exhibition that will be on display at the Indianapolis Art Center through the first week of January.

One of his sculptures has been accepted in the “37th Mid-States Craft Exhibition” that will be on display through January 13 at the Evansville Museum of Art, History, and Science. Exhibit juror Holly Hotchner, director of the American Craft Museum, selected Dowhie to receive a merit award for his work.

He also has been invited to design a sculpture for “Dessertworks,” an exhibition to be hosted by Indiana University-Southeast at the New Albany campus gallery in mid-January, and Dowhie’s essay, “Rough Cuts,” was published in the December issue of Ceramics Monthly.

Congratulations

Mr. David Estel, computer maintenance supervisor, and his wife April are the parents of a daughter, Grace Olivia, born Friday, November 16.

Welcome

Dr. Bruce A. Mabis has accepted the position of assistant professor of computer science. The Chandler, Indiana, resident previously taught at Kentucky Wesleyan College, USI, and University of Evansville. He holds a B.S. in physics from Capital University, an M.S. in electrical engineering from UE, and a Ph.D. in computer science from Vanderbilt University.

In sympathy

The University community extends sympathy to the family of Mr. Jim Brown, men’s golf coach, whose mother-in-law Vera Barrett, Emporia, Kansas, died Monday, December 10. Roberts Blue Barnett Funeral Home in Emporia is handling the arrangements.

For job openings, visit the Human Resources Web site at www.usi.edu/hr/. Information also is available on the bulletin boards in the front lobby of the Wright Administration Building and outside the Human Resources office, or call the University of Southern Indiana Job Line at 812/465-7117.

Nomination deadline January 11

The Faculty and Academic Affairs Committee will accept nominations for the University’s Distinguished Professor Award and the Sydney L. and Sadelle Berger Faculty Community Service Award through Friday, January 11.

Nominators and nominees must be full-time members of the USI faculty, who already should have received nomination forms and the rationale for the awards.

Nominations must be submitted by January 11. Documentation related to nominations is due Friday, February 8. Nominations and related documentation should be returned to Dr. Ernie Hall, committee chair, or the appropriate committee representative:

- School of Business - Dr. Ernie Hall, Room 3057, Robert D. Orr Center
- Bower-Suhreinrich School of Education and Human Services - Dr. Marlaire Chase, Room 151, Forum Wing
- Pott School of Science and Engineering Technology - Dr. Kathy Rodgers, Room 275, Science Center
- School of Liberal Arts - Dr. Julie Evey-Burkey, Room 3053, Liberal Arts Center
- School of Nursing and Health Professions - Dr. Karen Parker, Room 2009, Health Professions Center

Full-time faculty members who have not received award information or nomination forms should contact their committee representatives, as should anyone with any questions.

‘Who’s Who’ nominations sought

The Office of Student Development will accept nominations for “Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges” through Friday, December 21. The program honors outstanding students on campuses across the country. To be eligible, nominees must be enrolled at USI and must have earned a minimum of 60 credits by the completion of the 2001 summer term.

Nominations should include the student’s name and address, and may be e-mailed to Ms. Carmen Ahlers, director of Student Development, at cahlers@usi.edu.
Weekend to feature award-winning writers

USI’s second annual RopeWalk Winter Weekend Retreat will be held Friday through Sunday, February 22 through 24, at the Barn Abbey in New Harmony, Indiana.

The winter weekend is similar to the University’s RopeWalk Writers Retreat held annually in June. Weekend participants submit manuscripts and study fiction/creative nonfiction or poetry in workshops conducted by published authors. Four sessions of each workshop are scheduled during the three-day weekend that also includes public readings and time for informal conversation.

"Some of the annual RopeWalk participants expressed a desire for a shorter retreat since not everyone can get away for a weekend," said Dr. Thomas Wilhelmus, RopeWalk co-founder and associate dean of USI’s School of Liberal Arts. “Besides, historic New Harmony offers a beautiful winter setting that lends itself to good writing.”

Ms. Susan Neville will conduct the fiction/creative nonfiction workshop. Her essay collections include Indiana Winter and Fabrication, published in 2000 by MacMurray and Beck. She is the author of the story collections Invention of Flight, which won the Flannery O'Connor Award for Short Fiction, and In the House of Blue Lights, selected as one of the “Best Books of 1998” by the Chicago Tribune. A recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship and a Pushcart Prize, Neville teaches at Butler University in Indianapolis. She previously participated in RopeWalk as a guest reader.

Mr. David Wojahn will lead the poetry workshop. He has written five collections of poetry, most recently The Falling Hour, After Empire, and Mystery Train. He also is the author of Strange Good Fortune: Essays on Contemporary Poetry, and his work has appeared in a variety of journals and anthologies including Best American Poetry, Paris Review, Poetry, The New Yorker, American Poetry Review, TriQuarterly, Yale Review, Kenyon Review, and The New York Times Book Review.

He has received two fellowships in poetry from the National Endowment for the Arts, the William Carlos Williams Book Award, the Yale Series of Younger Poets Award, writing fellowships in poetry from the Indiana and Illinois state arts councils, two poetry fellowships from the Fine Arts Work Center, and the Amy Lowell Traveling Poetry Scholarship. Wojahn serves as director of the Creative Writing Program at Indiana University.

The Barn Abbey, site of the winter weekend, is a rustic retreat center offering bunk beds in double rooms. Restroom and shower facilities are shared, and rooms are located on the first or second floors with no elevator service. Workshops and meals also will take place at the Barn Abbey. Public readings will be held at the Athenium Visitors Center. Participants may make other lodging arrangements if desired.

The winter retreat fee is $275, including choice of workshop, some meals, and lodging at the Barn Abbey, or $240 for a workshop and some meals. A nonrefundable $25 registration fee is due by Friday, January 18, with the balance payable by Friday, February 1.

Registration is limited to 10 per workshop. To register, call USI’s Office of Extended Services at extension 1989.

The manuscript deadline is Friday, February 1. Manuscripts should be typed, double spaced, with the participant's full name on every page.

Submissions for the poetry workshop may include a maximum of two poems, totaling no more than five pages. Fiction/creative nonfiction submissions may be a maximum of 10 pages.

USI’s RopeWalk Winter Weekend Retreat is made possible through the support of Mrs. Ruth Lilly, the Indiana Arts Commission, the Blaffer Trust, the University of Southern Indiana Society for Arts and Humanities, and the support and assistance of Historic New Harmony.

Additional information is available online at www.rope-walk.org.

Festival showcasing six plays

USI will host the 34th annual Region III Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KC/ACTF) Wednesday through Sunday, January 9 through 13, in Evansville.

The six best plays and musicals entered in the regional competition will be presented at 1 and 9 p.m. January 10 through 12 at the Centre. The selections will be announced in mid-December.

Tickets are general admission. A pass to all six performances is $20. The individual performance price is $5. Ticket information is available by calling 812/465-1026.

Volunteers

Festival volunteers are needed in a variety of areas, including registration, transportation, time-keeping, and manual labor. For more information or to volunteer, call Mrs. Trisha Kennedy, assistant director of Alumni and Volunteer Services, at extension 1215.

Mrs. Verlee Tennenhouse, administrative assistant in the School of Liberal Arts, and Ms. Kathy MacGregor, administrative assistant in the School of Liberal Arts, examine the selection of student artwork available at the USI Print Sale.
Orientation

Spring Connections I, new student orientation, will be held Thursday, January 3, when more than 225 new freshmen and transfer students are expected on campus.

University departments should be prepared for visits and questions from new students. For more information, contact the Office of Student Development Programs at extension 7167 or visit www.usi.edu/sdv/orientation.asp.

Holiday Party

USI’s Secretaries and Associates Club will host a Holiday Party from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, December 19, at Central United Methodist Church, 300 Mary St.

All USI support staff are invited to attend the event that will include lunch, attendance prizes, and a Christmas swap game. Those attending should bring a gift valued at $10 or less.

The lunch menu includes beef or turkey with mashed potatoes, dressing, green beans, slaw, rolls, and tea or lemonade. The cost is $9 members, $11 nonmembers, and the reservation deadline is Friday, December 14. Reservations may be made with Mrs. Debbie Strueh, account clerk in the Business Office, in Room 21 of the Orr Center.

NHT season

Discounted New Harmony Theatre season subscriptions will be available through Monday, December 31. The 2002 season includes Noel Coward’s Private Lives, Eugene O’Neill’s Anna Christie, and the musical, Pump Boys and Dinettes.

The special early-bird subscription prices are $45 general admission; $40 seniors (60+); and $36 groups of 20+. After Tuesday, January 1, ticket prices will increase $5.

To order gift certificates or make reservations, call 812/465-1635 or toll free 877/NHT-SHOW, e-mail newharmonytheatre@usi.edu, or mail requests to The New Harmony Theatre, 8600 University Blvd., Evansville, IN 47712.

Xi Mu

The Xi Mu chapter of Kappa Delta Pi wishes to thank everyone who participated in the Kappa Delta Pi 2001 holiday card/scholarship program.

Toy drive

USI’s Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) collected more than 350 new toys for the ARK Crisis Prevention Nursery. More than 100 used toys also were donated, as well as other personal items, clothing, and canned goods.

Alpha Sigma Alpha donated the most, winning a free PRSSA publicity campaign. The group was one of eight organizations participating in this year’s toy drive. Several individuals also made donations. PRSSA would like to thank all participating organizations and individuals for their contributions.

Granary party

The third annual New Year’s Eve Party at the Rapp Granary will be held Monday, December 31. The event is open to the public and will begin at 7 p.m. with cocktails at the Bayou Conference Center. Dinner will follow at 7:30.

Carriage rides from the conference center to the Granary will be provided. Doc Stocker’s five-piece Dixieland Band will perform dance music from 9 p.m. to midnight. Party favors and a champagne toast at midnight are included in the $100-per-person ticket price ($25 is tax deductible). A cash bar will be available during the event in New Harmony, Indiana.

Proceeds will benefit Granary debt reduction. Reservations are limited, and black tie is optional. Tickets and additional information are available by calling 812/682-4550.

Epi-Hab scholarships

University of Southern Indiana’s Epi-Hab Center for Disability Studies is offering six $1,000 scholarships for the spring 2002 semester. USI undergraduate and graduate students with or without disabilities are invited to apply.

The deadline for application is Saturday, January 12. Additional information and application forms are available in the offices of each of USI’s five schools, the Counseling Center, the Financial Assistance Office, and Extended Services, and by visiting www.usi.edu/extserv/epihab/scholar.html.

Newsletter deadline

In conjunction with Winter Recess, University Notes will be on vacation Friday, December 21, and Friday, December 28. Distribution will resume Friday, January 4, when University Notes will debut as an online-only publication.

Friday, December 28, is the submission deadline for the Web edition January 4. Submissions may be made via e-mail to lkeeling@usi.edu or by calling extension 5259. Items for “Marketplace” may be e-mailed to kaltstad@usi.edu.
### Calendar

**Friday, December 14**
- Final exams.

**Saturday, December 15**
- Fall 2001 semester ends.
- Final exams.
- Women's basketball hosts Grace College - 5:15 p.m., Physical Activities Center.
- Men's basketball hosts Oakland City - 7:30 p.m., Physical Activities Center.

**Tuesday, December 18**
- Men's basketball hosts Abilene Christian - 7:30 p.m., Physical Activities Center.

**Monday, December 24**
- Winter Recess - University closed.

**Tuesday, December 25**
- Winter Recess - University closed.

**Wednesday, December 26**
- Winter Recess - University closed.

**Thursday, December 27**
- Winter Recess - University closed.

**Friday, December 28**
- Winter Recess - University closed.
- Women's basketball hosts Illinois-Springfield - 6 p.m., Physical Activities Center.

**Saturday, December 29**
- Winter Recess - University closed.
- Men's basketball hosts Brescia - 7:30 p.m., Physical Activities Center.

**Sunday, December 30**
- Winter Recess - University closed.
- Women's basketball at Ferris State University - 2 p.m., Big Rapids, Michigan.

**Monday, December 31**
- Winter Recess - University closed.

### Calendar update
University employees are invited to submit information about campus events to the USI online calendar located at usi.edu/webservices/calendar/index.asp.

### From the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs

The following undergraduate petitions have been approved:

**Undergraduate experimental courses**
- RADT 406X.N01 Introduction to Sonography and Sonographic Sectional - 3 hours. Spring 2002 implementation.
- RADT 421X.N01 Radiologic and Imaging Sciences Clinical Education Methods - 3 hours. Spring 2002 implementation.
- RADT 424X.N01 Radiologic and Imaging Sciences Practicum I - 3 hours. Spring 2002 implementation.

**University Core Curriculum**

- For C4: Western Culture
  - LATN 203: Intermediate Latin I - 3 hours.
  - LATN 204: Intermediate Latin II - 3 hours.
- For C5: Global Communities
  - LATN 102: Elementary Latin II - 3 hours.

The following graduate petitions have been approved:

**Graduate new course**
- FREN 500 Special Topics in French - 3 hours. Spring 2002 implementation.