

A beautiful noise from USI



Thomas Drury, instructor of music in the Department of Performing Arts, teaches a course in USI's interactive keyboard lab.

When Genevieve Bootz realized that USI didn't have a music department, she felt like she could help. "USI needs to have a music department," she said. "I understood how much music can influence a person's life and education. It's such a vital part of a university. It's an open door into other programs."

In 2010, Bootz made a \$100,000 gift to the USI Foundation to help the University initiate plans to make music an academic offering. A new keyboard lab was completed in 2011, and the College of Liberal Arts is now offering classes toward a minor in music projected to be implemented in fall 2012. The keyboard lab was developed using USI funds. However, the University was able to create the lab knowing that Bootz's gift was available to provide for music instruments and other future expenses.

Creating the space

The keyboard lab features 17 Yamaha piano keyboards—each weighted to feel, and sound, like a real piano. Workstations include computers net-

worked to the instructor's computer. "We're able to teach in a virtual world," said Daniel Craig, associate professor of music.

Instruments can be broadcast into the room individually, grouped as ensembles, or listened to individually using earphones. Students also can conduct research and interact with their keyboards through the computers. Instructors, in turn, can view students' work from their screens.

Completed in August, the new keyboard lab was a labor of love for Craig, who designed the space over a two-year period. With the help of two student volunteers, he constructed and outfitted the lab with the help of a software and hardware liaison from Fort Wayne, Indiana. "We saved a lot of resources by providing our own labor," he said.

The lab is a hybrid concept—most labs have keyboards only and students move to a separate work station to use a computer. "We wanted to create a different situation where we could integrate the computers," said Craig.

"It's an exciting time to see all this work together and flow together to make a beautiful classroom."

Looking forward

The University currently offers class piano at the beginner level, and music theory, each for two semesters. Craig plans to expand both courses to four semesters as the program grows. USI also offers an aural skills class that helps musicians internalize music before attempting to play it. Introduction to Music has been taught at USI for years.

"What we've done is add a key set of classes that become the core of the new music minor," says Craig. "I'm pleased with the outcome so far." He adds that the lab is the first step toward offering a full program in the future.

Genevieve Bootz – Building a legacy

Genevieve Bootz is a generous friend of USI, and has been for many years. Her legacy of community service and philanthropy, both to USI and the

local community, goes back decades. She's seen USI rise from a vision to a reality, and is elated by what the University has become and what it offers the region.

She is a key player in the community as well. She adopted the Fulton Square unit of the Evansville Boys and Girls Club and was instrumental in helping the organization build programs. She is a long-time supporter of the Evansville Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), where she helps fund the Young Women of Promise Scholarship Program and assisted with shelter renovation. She served as president of the Vanderburgh County PTA Council and encouraged the development of a metropolitan school district—now the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation. Other involvements include New Harmony Theatre, Easter Seals, the League of Women Voters, and Evansville ARC.

Bootz credits her generosity to knowing USI's first president Dr. David Rice and his wife Betty. "Those are two



Bootz

people who never seek the limelight and have done so much for Evansville," she said. "I learned an awful lot from my friendship with them.

They knew how to make a thought carry through and work like no other people I've known. They're people of great vision and great accomplishment; they're models for all of us."

When Bootz retired from a career with Deaconess Hospital, she became friends and garden partners with Betty, who owned and operated a landscaping company. The two women would pick up David from meetings. "I got a good education from the backseat of that car," Bootz said. "I heard all of David's philosophies about why we needed a public institution for higher education

in Evansville. Over the years I heard a lot about the needs of the University. I just happened to be able to be a part of USI through that friendship."

Honored for community leadership

Dr. Linda L. M. Bennett, president of USI, recently nominated Genevieve Bootz for a Leadership Evansville Award. She received the award on March 15 at The Centre in Evansville during the Celebration of Leadership. "I was just floored," said Bootz. "It seems to me there's a role for all of us, and I, more or less, do what I can. I'm willing to assist and follow great causes."

A Phenomenal Woman

Bootz was recently named one of USI's 10 Phenomenal Women. Held at USI during Women's History Month, Phenomenal Women awards honor and celebrate women from all walks of life who have made contributions to diversity in the USI and Evansville communities.

Meet Levi, class of 2034.

Your gift today helps educate current and future USI students like Levi.

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Contact the USI Foundation to establish your legacy and ensure the excellence continues. Through planned gifts, annual gifts, and every gift, you directly impact the Levis of tomorrow.



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Levi is the son of
Andrea '05 and
Eric '12 Gentry



From left, global engagement interns Catherine Carver, Jordan Whittle, Chelsea Heibel, and Brittney Van Laeken

A world of opportunity

This summer, the world has become a classroom for students participating in an expanded global engagement initiative at USI. More than 40 participants are living and learning in countries around the globe, including Scotland, India, Ghana, Japan, and others. Resources made available by the University are helping to promote and integrate a global experience in their academic curriculum. Many of the students studying abroad are receiving scholarships and fully-funded internships for global engagement opportunities.

Heidi Gregori-Gahan, director of International Programs and Services, says one of the goals of global engagement is to expand the parameters of the study abroad program in terms of students' focus. They come back to campus, energized by their experiences, and talk about their travel and study with the rest of the University community. "They can help us understand more

about the issues and challenges affecting people in regions of the world that we don't know much about—and why it is important that we understand those issues and challenges," adds Gregori-Gahan.

Through the global engagement initiative, students go beyond the traditional study abroad program, adding experiences of service learning and research on healthcare, education, and human rights. They travel to parts of the world that students don't typically have the opportunity to visit. "We want them to consider studying in areas that are considered nontraditional locations," says Gregori-Gahan. "If you look at where American students typically study, the vast majority study in western Europe. We're encouraging students to look at places like Ghana, Japan, and India.

"We're trying to attract a more diverse group of students, which is where being able to provide financial assistance

has been a wonderful opportunity."

Some are first generation students who come from diverse backgrounds. Others had never traveled far from home prior to this. "We're trying to make it possible for students from all walks of life, and all majors, to consider some kind of study abroad experience, and that's been wonderful."

Participants will present at a global engagement forum in November during National/International Week. The event will include sessions where students talk about their travel, work, and research. Gregori-Gahan says this provides a great way to track and measure the experience of students, which is part of the University's overall strategic plan.

"This is an intentional effort that goes beyond the traditional experience," she says. "They're really getting to understand global issues and culture in a more in-depth way."

Carver recording history in New Lanark

A world of opportunity



Carver

Catherine Carver, a USI history major with a minor in anthropology, is spending six weeks in New Lanark, Scotland, on a fully-funded Global Engagement Internship. A native of Deltona, Florida, she traveled to the UNESCO World Heritage site in Scotland from May 10 through June 22.

While there, she helped develop a public search room to support access to New Lanark's collection of photographs, maps, drawings, and documents. The work will connect the New Lanark collection to the collections housed at USI's Rice Library and in New Harmony, Indiana.

New Lanark is a restored 18th century cotton mill village in southern Scotland. Less than an hour from Edinburgh and Glasgow, it welcomes thousands of visitors each year and is connected to USI's Historic New Harmony operation through the life and work of New Lanark Resident Robert Owen, who came to Indiana and was one of the founders of a communal living experiment in New Harmony.

While in New Lanark, Carver wrote a paper beginning with Robert Owen's initial goals, and including background information about the conditions at New Lanark before he became manager of the mill and a leader of social and education reform. She's also studying how Owen's ideals have endured over time, including a discussion about the Co-Operative Alliance movement, and how that concept is still alive and well today.

At USI, Carver works for Academic Skills as a supplemental instruction leader and is a member of Phi Alpha Theta, the History Honor Society, Student Support Services, and USI's Honors Program. Last spring, she received the Donald Pitzer History Scholarship. She plans to pursue a master's degree in history or archeology.

"This work is very applicable to my career goals," she says. "Plus, it's always great to be able to travel abroad." During her stay, she took several side trips to



Catherine Carver poses in front of the Tower of London. She was able to visit several museums and historical sites in England and Scotland during her six-week internship to New Lanark, Scotland.

Glasgow University and London, including the British Museum and the Tower of London.

USI faculty mentor Kristalyn Shefeland, assistant professor of history, accompanied Carver to Scotland for 10 days, and worked with her over the course of the internship to maintain a record of the experience and complete a final project.

The internship includes audience research, on-site and digital interpretation, and development of educational material. USI plans to use the experience as a launching point for an ongoing partnership with New Lanark. "USI will fully and permanently fund a student to work at New Lanark, Scotland, next summer and every summer thereafter to keep a permanent link to our history in Scotland," said Mark Rozewski, vice president for Finance and Administration.

Heibel gains real-world experience in Ghana



Heibel

Biochemistry major Chelsea Heibel, a junior from Fort Wayne, Indiana, spent eight weeks in Ghana from May 10 to July 8, on a fully-funded internship with the World Endeavors program.

With a pre-med emphasis and plans to pursue a career in medicine, Heibel found the internship appealing because it allowed her to customize her experience—matching her goals and interests with the needs of

the local community in Ghana. “I want to go into medicine, and I can see myself working overseas as a doctor in an underserved area,” she says. “I’ve shadowed doctors here, but it’s exciting to be exposed to the rural landscape and learn the structure of their healthcare system and how doctors interact. It’s great to be exposed to a different culture. I can’t believe what a great opportunity this is.”

She spent four weeks in the city of Kumasi living with a host family in the city’s suburbs and working in the maternity wing of Mount Sinai Hospital. She has a CNA and the focus of her work there is working with pregnant women and young mothers. Faculty mentor, Dr. Kevin Valadares, spent 16 days in Ghana with Heibel in June.

“The first week went well, although hours at the hospital are very long and hard work,” said Heibel in an early blog posting from Ghana. “Since all of the staff and patients speak primarily Twi, it was initially difficult to understand what was going on. But now they know me, and I know them, and I have been able to learn a lot. I’ve even watched a few surgeries and set an IV!”

For an additional four weeks, she stayed in rural areas of Ghana, addressing public health issues for underserved communities and understaffed hospitals.

This was her first trip outside the country other than a brief trip to Canada. World Endeavors volunteer programs are traditionally known for their cultural immersion. Volunteers live in the communities they serve, learn the local language, meet the people, experience customs and traditions, and eat the local food.



Chelsea Heibel with schoolchildren at Esaase Christian School and Orphanage near the city of Kumasi in Ghana. After a day’s work, she and other volunteers often spend time with the children, playing cards, using the computer, or learning about each other’s language and culture.

“I do not know where to start, nor do I have time to write about everything I have seen and experienced this first week,” said Heibel in her blog.

“We stay at the Esaase School and Orphanage in the small village of Esaase, very close to downtown Kumasi.

My first two weeks I am stationed at the Males Ward, so I make my way there and help the morning nurses clean and set up for the day. I stay in that ward until somewhere between 12:30 and 2 p.m., when I take my lunch. After lunch, I head back to the Males Ward where I help administer medicine, do patient records, or take blood pressure and temperature of the eight to 10 patients in the ward. Richard, the head nurse at the hospital, usually calls for me between 2:30 and 4 p.m. to accompany him and Dr. Essien on rounds. There are a total of four wards in the hospital: Males, Females, Children, and Maternity. I follow Dr. Essien as he talks to each of his patients and explains their condition and treatment to the nurses and me.

In the evenings, we eat together, sometimes with Mr. Boateng, and the children are usually swimming in the pool out front or crowding around us. It is a joy to be loved by so many kids!”



Whitledge finds opportunity in India



Whitledge

Jordan Whitledge, a senior business administration, economics, and political science major and 2011-12 Student Government Association president, is spending a six-week fully-funded internship with World Endeavors in Jaipur, the capital and largest city of India's Rajasthan region from July 6 through August 18.

Dr. Leslie Nunn, chair and professor of business law in the College of Business, is Whitledge's faculty mentor and accompanied him to India for the first week of the program.

"I'm coming to the end of my college career, and I always wanted to go abroad, but finances have been a

problem," Whitledge said. "I haven't had the money to study abroad. I saw this opportunity and decided to apply. I'm very grateful that I got it."

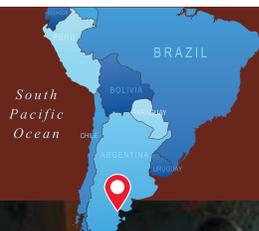
After graduation, he plans to pursue a joint degree program and earn Master of Business Administration and Juris Doctor degrees. "I eventually want to hold public office because it is the highest calling an individual, in a democracy, can pursue. I believe deeply in community service, and I see public service as an extension of that.

"I'm really excited about this opportunity, and I'm looking forward to growing both personally and professionally and bringing my experiences back to USI," he said.

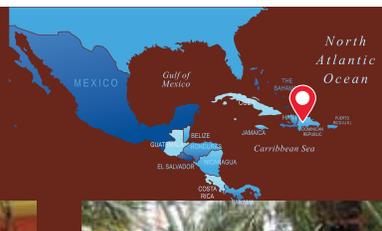
Whitledge is a member of the Pre-Law Society, Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. He also has served as a student orientation leader.



Molly Spurlock, center, and friends from Kansai Gaidai University in Japan, celebrate spring near Osaka Castle by participating in Hanami, a centuries-old Japanese tradition of having a picnic beneath cherry trees. Spurlock spent the spring 2012 semester studying in Japan through the International Student Exchange Program (ISEP). She received a Global Engagement scholarship to support her research on the impact of the tsunami and nuclear fallout on Japanese culture, and the Japanese government's response to that crisis.



Molly Konkle, an international studies major, relaxes at a hostel during a trip to Iguazu Falls, Argentina, now named the seventh World Wonder. The international hostel included students from France, Holland, and Germany. Konkle, a junior, is studying at the University of Salvador in Argentina through the International Student Exchange Program (ISEP). Her global engagement research has focused on poverty alleviation, including community development programs and other resources for poor women in the country.



Nine students with Spanish majors or minors received global engagement scholarships to study in the Dominican Republic with Dr. Manuel Apodaca-Valez, assistant professor of Spanish in the Modern and Classical Languages Department at USI. The group spent more than two weeks in the country for credit toward a course on "Afro-Latin American Language and Culture." Some students are combining the study with majors in English, education, international studies, or health professions.



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Internship takes Van Laeken to remote areas of India



Van Laeken

Brittney Van Laeken, a nursing major at the University of Southern Indiana, spent her summer in India. She coordinated her four-week fully-funded internship through Cross-Cultural Solutions, an international volunteer organization—one of the oldest working in the India region. In preparation for her trip, from May 25 to June 24, she researched the area and its diverse population.

Her experience took her to the far reaches of Northern India; to the city of Dharamsala in the Himalayas, where she worked with the local community. Since 1959, the city has been an enclave for the Dalai Lama and the exiled Tibetan government. The city is separated into two distinct areas with many rural pockets and villages within walking distance.

Faculty mentor Dr. Marie Opatrny, associate professor of social work, spent 10 days in India overseeing Van Laeken's work and helping design her research project. "I'm excited to be working with her," said Van Laeken. "My heart is really in doing nonprofit work. I'm interested in social change. I chose nursing as a major because I felt like it would open more doors for me, but at the same time I could still do what I was interested in."

At 32, and a single mother, Van Laeken is a nontraditional student. She began her education at USI in 1998, as a fine arts major. Family and life circumstances didn't allow her to finish her degree. She transferred to Indiana University and later the University of Milwaukee in Wisconsin, where she continued work toward a fine arts degree. She later spent several semesters at Ivy Tech after moving back to the Evansville area. She has been enrolled in USI's Nursing Program for two years and plans to graduate in 2014.

"This is a really big deal for me because typically study abroad programs are not completely covered," she says. "To be given this opportunity is the equivalent of winning the lottery. As a single parent, I could never afford something like this on my own. I've always wanted to travel internationally."



Children congregate in front of a rural school near Dharamsala, in northern India. Global engagement intern Brittney Van Laeken regularly travels to the schools in the mountainous region to give medical assessments to children, including babies and toddlers.

Van Laeken focused her work on public health and health education during her time in India, particularly in the area of women's issues and assistance for populations of a lower socio-economic status. She researched the weaknesses and strengths of the local culture and its healthcare, as well as issues related to over-population. Her work included a focus on adults with alcohol and substance abuse problems, which are common in the Tibetan community.

"I chose India partly because even though they've become a very technologically advanced country, they still have a lot of issues with poverty and with diseases that have been eradicated elsewhere, like tuberculosis, malaria, and even polio in some areas," she said.

"Ultimately I'd love to do international work. I believe that healthcare is a human right. My goal is to work with a nonprofit organization, whether it's providing public health to local communities here in the United States or working internationally."