



Experiential Learning

Opportunities expanded at home and abroad

I'm often struck by the wide variety of experiences that our students are involved in. Here at USI, we're much more than a brick and mortar school. Our classrooms extend into the community, throughout the region, and around the world. Through a strong focus on experiential learning, our students will leave here prepared for a world of opportunities.

Our new Applied Engineering Center, featured in this issue, will be completed this fall, and will give students hands-on, real-world training in exciting new areas of industry, applied engineering, and business applications. It really is an incredible facility, from the state-of-the-art equipment, to the partnerships that will be formed with industry.

Next summer our Archaeology Field School will be heading to Fort Quiatenon, near West Lafayette, where our students will be digging up an exciting piece of U.S. history. We're able to do this thanks to an important grant from the National Parks Service.

When we developed the goal of enhancing experiential learning opportunities in our strategic plan, international study programming was an important part of the goal. In a little more than a year, faculty and students have deepened USI's commitments in China, India, Scotland, Malta, Germany, and Uganda. USI's impact is extending beyond the region and state to national and international venues. In this issue you'll see examples of an intern in India and a group of students spending part of their summer studying in Belize. What these students learn will change how they view the world, their college experience, and likely their life choices.

I think it's clear that we're providing more than an education. We're giving our graduates opportunities that will give them a competitive edge throughout life.

You have been part of this growth and making these experiences possible. I hope you are as excited as I am by the stories of experiential learning in this issue. There is more to come.