Employees meet the ‘challenge’

USI employees contributed $383,075 to the Challenge for Academic Excellence, surpassing a goal of $250,000 and helping the University qualify for a total of $4 million in matching grants from the Lilly Endowment.

“It is difficult for a relatively young institution to build endowments. We are grateful for the gifts which allowed us to qualify for this vital matching program,” said USI President H. Ray Hoops. “And the annual earnings will help make up the gap between state funding and our greatest academic needs at a time when we are challenged by diminished state resources.”

In 2003, the University exceeded its Challenge goals in three of four categories: Employees, $3,762,613 with a $3 million goal; and Family, $346,537 with a $250,000 goal. The Boards challenge for USI’s Board of Trustees and USI Foundation’s Board of Directors reached $600,248 of a $1 million goal in 2002.

Gifts for any academic purpose qualified for the match, and Lilly’s $4 million in matching funds is establishing the first multimillion dollar endowment to enhance academics at USI.

The University’s Endowment for Academic Excellence will provide annual income to support academic needs where the need is greatest. A tier the full endowment is invested, annual income is expected to exceed $175,000.

The challenge was offered to all 35 Indiana colleges and universities in a Lilly Endowment initiative to strengthen philanthropy for Indiana higher education institutions.

Homecoming events February 7

Pack your bags. It’s almost time to depart for USI Homecoming 2004: “Passport A round the World.”

“The University community is invited to attend Homecoming activities,” said Nancy Johnson, director of Alumni and Volunteer Services. “It’s your passport to a world of fun, food, and basketball!”

The Multicultural Center will be the first destination on February 7. In celebration of its 10-year anniversary and the first African-American Alumni Reunion, the center is offering free campus tours from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. with registration available at the Multicultural Center in the University Center.

The “A Piece of Yesterday” reunion luncheon will be held at 11 a.m. in Carter Hall and will include several speakers as well as musical entertainment. Reservations for the luncheon, $12, are available by calling the Multicultural Center, 812/465-7188.

The Physical Activities Center is the next stop on the itinerary. The 17th annual Alumni Men’s Basketball Game will hit the courts at 3 p.m. The Lady Eagles will face off with Bellarmine University at 5:15 p.m., and the Screaming Eagles will take on Bellarmine at 7:30.

Tickets for the games are $10; $7 for bench seats; $4 for student bench seats. Discounted tickets are available to alumni and those registering for the Multicultural Center’s reunion lunch.

The Alumni Homecoming Party, from 9:30 to 11 p.m., will be held in Room 200 of the Physical Activities Center. The free party for ages 21 and older will feature complimentary food booths and a cash bar. Singer/keyboardist Matt Clark will provide the entertainment.

USI Homecoming 2004 is sponsored by the USI Alumni Association. For additional information, call Alumni and Volunteer Services, 812/464-1924.

A schedule of events during Homecoming Week, February 2-7, follows:

- February 2 - Homecoming Rec Fest, 7 p.m. in the Recreation and Fitness Center
- February 2-6 - Vote for Homecoming King and Queen on Campus Pipeline
- February 3 - Illusionist Mike Super, 8 p.m. in Carter Hall
- February 4 - International Night, 7:30 p.m. in Governors Hall
- February 5 - Tailgate Party, 7 p.m. in the Physical Activities Center, between the men’s and women’s basketball games
- February 6 - Trivia Game, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the University Center

Special event toasts the arts

The University of Southern Indiana Society for Arts & Humanities will present its 13th annual “Toast to the Arts” February 6 at the Evansville Museum of Arts, History, and Science.

The evening will feature silent and live auctions as well as selected musical entertainment. A cash bar will be available for cocktails, with service beginning at 7 p.m. Dinner will follow at 8.

This year’s auction items include paintings, sculptures, ceramics, jewelry, antiques, and special events.

The menu includes assorted canapés, cold poached ravioli, mixed greens with toasted almonds, sun-dried cherries dressed in citrus vinaigrette, pastrami encrusted salmon with white wine and fresh basil, wilted spinach, sushi rice with s gurine orange sauce, and chocolate martini glass with blue Curacao mousse. Vegetarian/alternate menu needs may be accommodated, by calling 812/465-7149.

Gala proceeds benefit USI’s scholarship fund, student development fund and grants to The New Harmony Theatre and RopeWalk Writers Retreat. Information about the Society for Arts & Humanities is online at www.usi.edu/libarts/society/bkgnd.asp.

Tickets for the “Toast to the Arts” are $125 per person, which includes a $50 charitable gift. Black tie is preferred. The reservation deadline is February 2. For information or reservations, call 812/465-7149.
MCC celebrating anniversary

The USI Multicultural Center will celebrate its 10-year anniversary and first African-American Alumni Reunion February 7 as part of the University's homecoming activities.

"We wanted to have alumni celebrate with the people who helped establish the Multicultural Center," said Vianny Gordon, MCC assistant program director. "We wanted to let everybody be a part of the celebration."

The festivities will begin at 9:30 a.m. with bus tours of campus and five University buildings. The tours will continue until 11:30 a.m. Interested persons may register to participate at the MCC in the University Center. Advance registration is not required.

"A Piece of Yesterday," the reunion luncheon at 11 a.m. in Carter Hall, will feature a variety of speakers as well as entertainment provided by Designed by Grace, USI's gospel choir. Reservations for the luncheon, $12, are available by calling the MCC, 812/465-7188.

After the luncheon, a meeting to establish an African-American alumni organization is planned. A panel discussion with alumni, students, and faculty will follow.

Speakers during the reunion events will include Dr. Robert Parente, vice president for Student Affairs; Randa Gatling '99, instructor in physical education and assistant women's basketball coach; Patricia Jackson '89; Katherine Webb '89; Linda Williams '80; Goldie Scales '98; A lethea Hunter '00; Karla Berry '03; Maurice M umford '98; Justin Hunter '98; and Lakiesha Singleton '04.

Reunion participants also are invited to the Physical Activities Center for additional Homecoming 2004 activities.

The MCC opened its doors during the 1993-94 academic year. Its mission is to enhance "the personal and academic success of students by preparing them to be responsible citizens in a multicultural society."

Faculty production on WNIN

A 30-minute television program created by two members of the communications faculty will broadcast on WNIN-TV 9 February 2.

Dr. Dave Black, assistant professor of communications, and Dr. Bob West, assistant professor of advertising, collaborated to produce "Always There: Evansville African-American and Their Church."

The program explores the role of the church in the lives of nine Tri-State residents: Warren Hale, Delores Jackson, Classy Martin, Todd Robertson, Irene Saucer, Bertis Shane, Emily Starks, Dora Wilson, and John Wisdom.

Black and West conducted interviews with the participants, who share various perspectives on African-American spiritual faith as well as memories of what church life meant to them growing up, its influence today, and their hopes for the future.

USI alumna Kami Boyd provides the program's introduction. Boyd is a member of the W FIE weather team and is a broadcast personality on 104FM WIKY.

Black joined the University in 1998 and teaches courses in television production and the broadcasting/cable industries. He holds a Ph.D. in communications from University of Tennessee-Knoxville, previously taught at Bowling Green State University, and worked as a television director in Nashville, Tenn.

West '78 joined the University full-time in 1999 and teaches courses in advertising and speech. He holds a doctorate in speech communication from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and has taught at the collegiate level since 1984. He also worked as director of operations at W FIE-TV in Evansville, is co-advisor of the USI Student Advertising Club, and is a former president of the Advertising Club of Evansville.

"Always There: Evansville African-Americans and Their Church" will air at 9 p.m. February 2 on WNIN. The program was produced through the University of Southern Indiana Scripps Howard Video Complex.

Course targets entrepreneurs

A six-week course developed by USI to help individuals start a business or expand an existing business will begin in Evansville February 24.

"How to Write a Business Plan: A Basic Entrepreneurial Training Program" will be offered from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Gaither Rutherford and Co., 7300 E. Indiana St.

Sponsored by Southern Indiana Rural Development Project and Southwestern Indiana Small Business Development Center, the course will help business owners develop a comprehensive business plan to act as a blueprint for growth.

Topics will include idea generation and feasibility research; market analysis and location; marketing strategies and implementation; financial overview of books, records, and controls; financial statements; and how to manage people and information.

The cost is $65 (plus $50 for a spouse or business partner), and includes a textbook, workbook, and resource guide. Registration is available by phone, 812/464-1989 or 800/467-8600.

The program is funded in part by a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Names in the news

Achievements

Dr. Scott Granberg-Rademacker, assistant professor of political science, attended the Southern Political Science Association Conference January 8-10 in New Orleans, where he served as both chair and discussant of two panels: "Charter Schools and School Choice" and "Bureaucracy, Race, and Education."

Mary Hallock Morris, instructor in political science, presented the paper, "The Inner Life of Policy Subsystems: Responding to Conflict and Spillover Effects," at a panel session on "Political Dilemmas of Water Policy" during the Southern Political Science Association Conference January 8-10 in New Orleans. She also chaired a panel on "New and Old Players in Environmental Politics."

Mark Razor, interim director of University Division, co-presented "Cooperative and Problem-based Learning as Teaching Methods for Graduate Students" with members of the Indiana State University faculty January 22 at WinterFest, ISU's annual conference on college teaching. The presentation focused on the process one student group used to apply cooperative learning skills to solve a real-world problem in higher education.

Welcome

David Duvall, Evansville, has accepted the position of assistant director of Student Development Programs. He previously
worked as coordinator of orientation at Georgia Southern University. Duvall earned an M.S. in higher education administration in 2001 from Florida State University and a B.S. in finance in 1999 from University of Tennessee.

John W. Hunt, Evansville, has accepted the position of associate director for risk management in Procurement and Distribution Services. He previously worked as risk manager at University of Kentucky, where he earned an M.A. in economics in 1973. Hunt also holds a B.S. in math and economics from Murray State University and is a member of the University Risk Management and Insurance Association, Risk and Insurance Management Society, and Omicron Delta Epsilon.

Gregory James Jones, Evansville, has accepted the position of systems analyst in the Computer Center. He previously worked at Ball State University as a microcomputer network analyst in University Computing Services and as a systems coordinator/LAN specialist in University Libraries. He holds an M.S. in information and communication sciences from BSU, where he also earned a B.S. in computer science.

Linda Lefler has accepted the position of senior administrative assistant in Human Resources. The Newburgh resident previously worked as an administrative assistant at University of Evansville.

Deborah Murray, Evansville, has accepted the position of senior administrative assistant in Extended Services.

In sympathy

The University community extends sympathy to the family of John Baburnich, registrar, whose father William Baburnich, 80, Benton, Ill., died December 27. Services were held in Benton. Memorial contributions may be made to the Tri-State Food Bank in Evansville.

The University community extends sympathy to Katherine Galvin, administrative assistant in the Business Office, whose mother Wanda Lee, 75, Evansville, died January 17. Services were held January 21 at Browning Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society or A bright United Methodist Church, 606 Van Dusen Ave., Evansville, IN 47711.

The University community extends sympathy to Suzanne Nicholson, USI Foundation president, whose sister, Margaret “Peggy” Keller, 64, Fort Myers, Fla., formerly of Evansville, died January 13. Services were held January 21 at Ziener Funeral Home East Chapel. Condolences may be made online at www.mem.com. Memorial contributions may be made to the Peggy Keller Golf Scholarship at University of Evansville, 1800 Lincoln Ave., Evansville, IN 47722; Walloon Lake Trust and Conservancy, P.O. Box 621, Petoskey, MI 49770; or Habitat for Humanity of Lee County Inc., 1288 N. Tamiami Trail, North Fort Myers, FL 33903.

The University community extends sympathy to the family of Beth Otto, instructor in education, and Eric Otto, director of Admission, whose sister/sister-in-law, Beverly Otto, 53, died January 15 in Oskaloosa Iowa. Services were held January 17. Memorial contributions may be made to The Cancer Camps, a cancer camp for children in Des Moines, Iowa.

The University community extends sympathy to the family of Dr. Joseph Palladino, chair of the Psychology Department, whose father-in-law William Assante, 75, Yonkers, N.Y., died January 11. Services were held January 16 at St. Anthony RC Church in Yonkers.

FYI

International photos

The Office of International Programs and Services is sponsoring an “A Round the World International Photo Contest.” The grand-prize winner will take home $100, and four runner-ups will receive $50 each. The entry deadline is Friday, January 30, and photos may be submitted to IPS on the lower level of the University Center. Guidelines follow:

* Photos must have been taken outside the U.S.
* Entries should be submitted in print format
* Original photos only - limit three entries per person
* Open to USI students, faculty, and staff

Winners will be announced at the International Week 2004 Reception February 16 on campus. For more information, call 812/465-7183.

RopeWalk reading

The RopeWalk Reading Series will feature Jim McGarrah, assistant professor of English, at 7 p.m. Thursday, January 29, in Kleymeyer Hall in the Liberal Arts Center.

McGarrah is the author of the recently published Running the Voodoo Down, which received the 2003 Editor’s Choice Award from Elixir Press. He holds an M.F.A. in creative writing from Vermont College and is a RopeWalk alumnus.

Presented by USI’s School of Liberal Arts, readings in the series are free and open to the public. A book signing will follow. For more information, call 812/461-5208.

Spring trip

Dr. Sherry Darrell, professor of English, will lead a trip, “Rome to Athens,” June 20-July 2. Sites will include Rome, Olympia, Delphi, Mycenae, Epidaurus, Athens, Crete, Rhodes, Santorini, and Kusadasi.

The cost for students is $2,170 or $2,720 (with cruise); adults, $2,495 or $3,325 (with cruise). Students may enroll for undergraduate or graduate credit associated with the journey. For more information, e-mail or visit Darrell in Room 3033 of the Liberal Arts Center.

Student success

“Noteworthy Note taking,” a workshop in the Student Success Series presented by Academic Skills, will be held at 9 a.m. Tuesday, January 27. “Introduction to Microsoft Word” will be offered at 3 p.m. Wednesday, January 28, and “The 250 Rule” at 9 a.m. Thursday, January 29.

Students, faculty, and staff are invited to attend the free interactive workshops in Room 1102 of the Education Center. For more information, call 812/464-1743.

Leadership conference

Nancy Hunter Denney, co-author of Let Your Leadership Speak: How to Lead and Be Heard, will conduct “Leadership USI 2004: The Voice of Charisma,” a four-hour interactive workshop
for USI students, from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, January 24, in Carter Hall.

O’Daniel Leadership Academy and the Office of Student Development Programs sponsor Leadership USI. Registration for the program is limited to 150 students. For more information, call 812/465-7167.

Spring camp

The USI Children’s Center will offer Spring Break Camp March 22-26 for children in kindergarten through second grade who need full-time care. Enrollment is limited and on a first-come, first-served basis. For information or enrollment, call Libby L. Keeling, associate editor, 812/464-1869.

The center also will offer a Summer Enrichment Camp for children entering grades two through five May 27-July 30 and Kindergarten Camp for children entering kindergarten or first grade May 27-July 30. Space is limited. For information or enrollment, call Ginger Ramsden, manager of Family, School, and Children’s Programs, 812/464-1972.

Shakespeare trip

Dr. Sherry Darrell, professor of English, and Eric vonFuhrmann, associate professor of English, will lead students on their annual trip to the Stratford Shakespeare Festival in Stratford, Ontario, Canada. The trip, September 30-October 3, will include four plays: Macbeth, A Midsummer Night’s Dream, King Henry VIII, and Guys and Dolls.

The cost - including four theatre tickets, three nights lodging, and transportation - is $290 for students or $340 for adults. For more information, e-mail or visit Darrell in Room 3033 of the Liberal Arts Center.

Tutor training

The Literacy Center will hold a tutor training session for volunteers interested in becoming tutors from 8:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, January 24, at Ivy Tech State College on First Avenue. For more information, call The Literacy Center, 812/429-1477, or Lori Saxby, tutor trainer and study skills specialist in the Academic Skills Center, 812/465-1011.

Chili supper

The Varsity Club and Alumni Association will sponsor a free chili supper Saturday, January 24, in Room 200 of the Physical Activities Center at 5:30 p.m., between the men’s and women’s basketball games. For more information, call 812/464-1973.

Newsletter deadline

Friday, January 23, 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 for the “Marketplace” column may be made via e-mail to Roberta Fugate, editorial associate in News and Information Services. Other submissions for University Notes may be made via e-mail to Libby L. Keeling, associate editor.

Job openings

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 by calling the USI Job Line at 812/465-7117.

Marketplace

For sale

1998 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo - black with leather interior, A M/FM CD changer, new tires and battery, cast aluminum wheels, V-8, automatic, cruise, 4-wheel drive, 76K miles. Good condition, $9,950. Contact Gary May, 812/465-1694 or gmay@usi.edu.

1996 Chevy S-10 LS edition pickup - 4 cylinder, regular cab, hunter green color, bedliner and bedcover, 78,000 miles, runs and looks great, $4,000. Power Macintosh Performa 6400/180 - software including Macromedia Graphics Studio 7, Microsoft Office, Norton Utilities, AfterDark 4.0, 100 MB SCSI Zip Drive, 56K external modem, ViewSonic 15” monitor, Okidata OL610e/PS PostScript laser printer, 600 dpi, $100 OBO. Nintendo Super NES system - with seven or eight action/sports games included, $60 OBO. Contact Ext. 5218, 812/423-3364, or jmrreidfoo@usi.edu.

Round dining room table - with four swivel vinyl chairs, $50. Two two-drawer filing cabinets - $20 each OBO. E-mail dhopf@usi.edu.

1994 Honda Civic LX - five-speed, four-door, power windows and locks, $2,900. Call 812/568-6027.

Women’s Raichle Ski Boots - size 9, worn very few times, in great shape, blue and white, $30, ski gloves free if fit. Call Ext. 1893.

1994 Ford E-150 full-size conversion van - 5.8L V8 with towing package and wood trim interior. Many extras including rear bed, security system, rear A/C and heat. Garage kept, great condition inside and out, 126,000 miles (mostly highway). $5,000, negotiable. Call Julie, 812/867-1216 or Ext. 1226.

House - two bedroom, one bath, one car garage, lovely yard. All appliances included, 971 Villagebrook Drive, Henderson, Ky., The Hills subdivision, $79,500. 1987 Saab LS900 Sedan - all electric, sunroof, standard, new tires, runs good, $950 OBO. Call Anna, 270/826-8310 or Ext. 1166.


1996 Chevy S-10 LS edition pickup - 4 cylinder, regular cab, hunter green color, bedliner and bedcover, 78,000 miles, runs and looks great, $4,000. Power Macintosh Performa 6400/180 - software including Macromedia Graphics Studio 7, Microsoft Office, Norton Utilities, AfterDark 4.0, 100 MB SCSI Zip Drive, 56K external modem, ViewSonic 15” monitor, Okidata OL610e/PS PostScript laser printer, 600 dpi, $100 OBO. Nintendo Super NES system - with seven or eight action/sports games included, $60 OBO. Contact Ext. 5218, 812/423-3364, or jmrreidfoo@usi.edu.

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