TAPPING into KNOWLEDGE

HOW-to from go-to campus experts
All about alumni

According to the USI Fact Book (www.usi.edu/ir), our alumni number more than 25,500. Another 1,400 graduates will join their ranks at Commencement in May. While we take pride as each graduating class goes forth into the world, we delight most of all in hearing from and about individual graduates.

This issue of USI Magazine features 2002 graduate Matt Scheessele among our campus experts. In Alumni Today, we write about award-winning screenwriter Matt Myers ’83, internationally recognized photographer Paul Van Hoy II ’04, and Jarrod Krisiloff ’05, who’s helping continue an exciting family tradition at Indianapolis Motor Speedway. In this section you also will read about several alumni moving up the business ladder and about former student athletes returning to campus for recognition in the USI Athletic Hall of Fame. And note that we have welcomed one of our own, Stephen Woodall ’78, back to campus as director of security.

While you are looking over the Alumni Today section, be sure to check out the details of the trip to Ireland sponsored by the USI Alumni Association. Here’s a chance to soak up the culture of the Emerald Isle with fellow members of the University of Southern Indiana community. Travel proceeds fund scholarships for USI students—our future alumni.

Betty R. Vawter
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Campus experts share their know-how.
See page 10.
President H. Ray Hoops will retire effective June 30, 2009, after a 40-year career in higher education, the most recent 14 years leading the University of Southern Indiana. He announced his retirement plans to faculty and administrative staff at the spring faculty meeting.

Hoops said, “When I came to the University of Southern Indiana 14 years ago, I felt the institution resembled a coiled spring. The results tell me that was a correct judgment. I have felt deeply privileged to serve in my capacity here as your colleague while so many significant steps across such a wide array of academic endeavors have been accomplished. I hope all of us will look back on this time with great satisfaction. I know I will.

“Among the many duties the head of an organization owes the people whose lives are impacted by actions taken is to not allow the effort level to diminish for any reason. Sooner or later, age will impact all of us. I have reached the advanced age of 68, which is somehow older than I ever expected to allow myself to get. I will not try to explain the inherent contradictions in that statement. I do not feel any older than I did at 30, I have not lost my fervor for the University of Southern Indiana, and I have not lost my zest for the position I now hold. I consider it part of meeting my responsibility to all of you not to extend my office into my seventies. That is an arbitrary number and all of us age differently, but in keeping with my perception of the duty I owe the University and to give the Board of Trustees ample time to select a successor, I am announcing my retirement effective June 30, 2009.”

Hoops is the second president of USI. He followed Dr. David L Rice who retired in 1994. Hoops said that upon becoming president he inherited no problems to fix and thus was able to look to the future.

John Dunn, chair of the USI Board of Trustees, said, “Under the Hoops administration, the University of Southern Indiana has grown in all aspects—expanded physical plant, increased enrollment, added academic programs including an engineering degree—establishing USI as one of the most valued higher education options in Indiana.”

— John Dunn
Chair, USI Board of Trustees

Trustees plan search for new USI president

The Board of Trustees is committed to a broadly representative search to identify candidates to succeed H. Ray Hoops as president of the University of Southern Indiana.

In early January, Hoops announced his plan to retire June 30, 2009. The USI Board of Trustees has approved the composition of the presidential search and screen committee, the charge to the committee, and the timetable for the search.

John Dunn, chair of the Board of Trustees, said faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community representatives will have significant opportunity for input in the process. Dunn will serve as chair of the search and screen committee.

Sherriianne M. Standley, vice president emerita for Advancement, will serve as coordinator of the search. She is meeting with constituent groups within the University to begin the process. Standley retired in June 2007.

Questions regarding the search can be directed to her at smstandl@usi.edu.
$1.1 million federal funding approved
Projects include perimeter roadway, engineering equipment

Federal funding of $1.1 million has been approved for two projects at the University of Southern Indiana. The funds were requested by USI. Federal funds of $350,000 will be used to construct a perimeter roadway for the campus and improve safety for pedestrians and motor vehicles. The roadway will reduce traffic in the center of the campus and improve traffic flow from State Highway 62 and University Parkway. The project will result in improved intersections, wider travel lanes, and pedestrian bridges and crosswalks to improve pedestrian and motorist safety.

Funding of $750,000 will provide equipment for advanced manufacturing and engineering. The dollars will provide state-of-the-art laboratory equipment in the new Business and Engineering Center scheduled to begin construction this year.

USI President H. Ray Hoops, said, “The advanced manufacturing and engineering laboratory equipment will allow the University to continue to produce a highly trained and technologically competent workforce for the region and the transportation system will enhance pedestrian and traffic safety on campus. We are very grateful for the work of Congressman Brad Ellsworth ’81, Indiana senators Richard Lugar and Evan Bayh, and the congressional office of Baron Hill for their support of the funding.”

The funding was included as part of the Fiscal Year 2008 Omnibus Appropriations measure that was approved by the House and Senate in mid-December and signed into law by President Bush on December 26.

Bennett on national Oversight Board for Voluntary System of Accountability
College Portrait helps students, families make wise college choice

Dr. Linda L.M. Bennett, USI provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, is one of eight college administrators nationwide to be named to the Oversight Board for a new program that helps students and families compare and contrast information about public universities.

College Portrait, a five-page template designed to provide consistent and comparable information on the undergraduate student experience, recently was unveiled as a product of the Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA), a joint project of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities and the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges.

Universities may register now to participate in the program. Each participating college will host College Portrait on its Web site. USI’s College Portrait is scheduled for implementation in the fall.

The five-page template has three sections and will be implemented in stages. The first section on student and family information addresses issues such as cost of attendance, degree offerings, living arrangements, student characteristics, graduation rates, transfer rates, and post-graduate plans. This section includes a college cost calculator and information on student success and rate of progress. The second section will provide information on student experiences and perceptions and the third on student learning outcomes.

Bennett has served since early 2007 as a member of the VSA Task Force on Student and Family Information. More than 80 administrators from universities across the country participated in the development of the program. The eight-member Oversight Board will monitor implementation of College Portrait.

Other members of the Oversight Board represent Florida State University, Fairmont State University, University System of Maryland, California State University-Northridge, University of Cincinnati, University of Nebraska at Omaha, and University of Kansas.

USI already provides on its Web site a great deal of information, including a cost calculator, to help students and families make a college choice. By participating in College Portrait, Bennett said USI is once again taking a strong position in terms of the transparency and availability of information.

“We want families to have as much information as they can have to make a wise choice,” she said.

More information and sample College Portrait templates are available at www.voluntarysystem.org.
Connect with Southern Indiana project inspires after-school fitness and nutrition program

Students at Glenwood Middle School in Evansville improved their fitness and sampled healthy foods like the kiwi this spring in a program that could become a model in the effort to prevent childhood obesity.

The Smart Youth Fitness and Nutrition Program, a 12-week after-school program for middle school students, evolved from a project completed for USI’s Connect with Southern Indiana.

Dr. Glenna Bower, USI assistant professor of physical education and a member of the 2007 Connect class, focused her project on childhood obesity. She was joined in the project by class members Vic Chamness, supervisor of science, health, and physical education for the Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corporation; Debbie Grace, owner of Happy House Daycare Center; and Vicki Nelson, development director of the Lampion Center.

They put together a DVD that included sample components of aerobic fitness, flexibility, muscular strength/endurance, and nutrition. The exercises use common household items instead of expensive fitness equipment. A Gatorade bottle becomes a pair of hand weights. Pantyhose are used instead of exercise tubing or bands. A pillow replaces an exercise mat.

The DVD was distributed to physical education teachers in Evansville schools to promote interest in implementing a program. Sheila Huff, principal, and Latoya Jagoe, site coordinator, helped start the program at Glenwood. Other schools also have expressed interest.

The Glenwood students made field trips to USI for hiking, yoga, swimming, basketball, and a cookout, but the majority of the program took place at Glenwood. The fitness portion was developed by USI students majoring in exercise science, general physical education, and physical education teaching. Students in a health and safety education course led by Dr. Stephanie Bennett, assistant professor in physical education, developed lesson plans on nutrition.

Begun in 2006, Connect with Southern Indiana provides participants the opportunity to meet business and civic leaders and others from the region, identify areas for collaborative problem-solving, and develop critical thinking skills, culminating in group projects beneficial to the region. In March the program received a Recognition of Excellence Award for Innovations in Outreach and Engagement from the University Continuing Education Association. Thenational award was presented at the organization’s annual conference in New Orleans.

Julie Edmister named dean

A university administrator and professor at a public university in Ohio will be the new dean of the Bower Suhrheinrich College of Education and Human Services at the University of Southern Indiana.

Julie H. Edmister of Bowling Green State University will assume the duties of dean July 1.

Edmister is a professor in the Department of Educational Administration and Leadership Studies at BGSU. She has taught courses in leadership theories, leadership and adult development, and dissertation research among others.

She leads a state-wide pilot licensure program in collaboration with the Hamilton County Educational Service Center for K12 school administrators holding “alternative principal licenses.” She applied for and received the grant from the Ohio Department of Education.

In other administrative work, Edmister is chair of the Dean’s Faculty Advisory Committee for the College of Education and Human Development at BGSU. She also is co-chair of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) steering committee, Standard 6 (Unit Governance and Resources).

She co-chaired a state-wide task force on Ohio Principal Standards alignment in 2006-07, which was a collaborative initiative involving faculty members from 11 public institutions, 18 private institutions, and two community colleges.

Edmister is filling the position held by Dr. C. Thomas Pickering, who came to USI as dean in 1988. He retired in 2007 and Dr. Jane Davis-Brezette has been acting dean.
RopeWalk Writers Retreat celebrates 20 years in utopia

The 20th annual RopeWalk Writers Retreat in New Harmony, Indiana, will be held June 14-21. In celebration of the anniversary, this year’s conference offers additional workshops, a master class, a publishing symposium, an alumni reading, a concert by singer/songwriter David Broza, and a community-centered day of “random acts of poetry and guerrilla prose.”

Since 1988, RopeWalk has given hundreds of participants the opportunity to attend workshops and confer privately with prominent writers in New Harmony, the site of two nineteenth-century utopian experiments with a history of creative and intellectual achievement.

USI Center for Applied Research
Grant encourages electronic health information exchange

State and regional leaders in health care gathered at the University of Southern Indiana in January for the announcement of a $1.3 million Medicaid Transformation grant to develop a health information exchange within the Evansville area.

The pilot project, one of the first in the United States, will be implemented through the Indiana Health Information Exchange.

The exchange will enable physicians to access information about a patient’s medical history electronically. Patients will no longer need to repeat or supply that history when seeking new treatment. The health information exchange is designed to improve the quality of care, reduce costs, and improve health outcomes.

Deaconess Health System, St. Mary’s Health System, the Vanderburgh County Health Department, and Welborn Clinic will participate in the project.

USI’s Center for Applied Research, the USI College of Nursing and Health Professions, and the Tri-State Business Group on Health co-facilitated the grant effort. Dr. Susan J. Ellspermann, director of the Center for Applied Research, said the idea of a health information exchange where information could be shared securely, on demand, and with extreme accuracy emerged as a priority in 2006 when the co-facilitators began discussions with area health care, community, and government leaders about area health care initiatives.

The Indiana Family and Social Services Administration announced the $1.3 million award from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Two faculty awarded summer grants

Kevin Valadares, associate professor of health services/administration, and Marie Opatrny, assistant professor of social work, are recipients of the first grants awarded by the USI Center for Applied Research. The summer 2008 grants each provide a $4,000 stipend for research.

Valadares will study how generational differences among physicians affect their loyalty to health care organizations. The study will further determine if generational diversity causes a disparity in the quality of care provided.

Because of the extremely high suicide rate in Southwestern Indiana, Opatrny is conducting research to identify potential factors associated with suicide risk. The outcome of the research will be used to help individuals who work with individuals at risk for suicide, to train crisis phone line workers, and to educate the general population and give them another tool to help when a loved one shows suicidal signs.
New Harmony’s Atheneum receives 25-year award

The Atheneum, which serves as the Visitors Center for Historic New Harmony, has received the 2008 American Institute of Architects (AIA) Twenty-five Year Award, intended to honor architectural design that has stood the test of time for 25 years.

The building and its architect Richard Meier, were honored in February at the American Architectural Foundation’s Accent on Architecture gala in Washington, D.C.

Historic New Harmony in New Harmony, Indiana, is a unified program of the University of Southern Indiana and the Indiana Division of State Museums and Historic Sites. The Atheneum is the starting point for tours and a center for visitor orientation and cultural community events. It houses exhibits on the communal history of New Harmony, a large theatre, and the Museum Shop. The Atheneum’s galleries also accommodate frequent receptions and meetings, allowing the structure to participate in the vitality of the community.

According to the AIA, the Atheneum “was conceived in terms of the linked ideas of architectural promenade and the historic journey of one of America’s most significant utopian communities.”

When it opened in 1979, Ada Louise Huxtable, architecture critic for The New York Times, wrote, “On the banks of the Wabash River, not far from the corn fields of Indiana, stands a dramatically handsome new building representing architecture’s most advanced frontier. This gleaming white structure is as radical an addition to the rural American heartland as Le Corbusier’s Villa Savoie was to the French countryside at Poissy half-a-century ago.”

Meier was the youngest architect to receive the Pritzker Architecture Prize, his profession’s highest accolade. Among his designs throughout the world are The Getty Center in Los Angeles; the High Museum of Art in Atlanta, Georgia; the Museum of Decorative Arts in Frankfurt, Germany; and an addition to the Des Moines Art Center in Iowa.

New Harmony’s Atheneum is a focal point for Historic New Harmony, a unified program of the University of Southern Indiana and the Indiana Division of State Museums and Historic Sites.

Get the FACTS from the USI Fact Book

- Cumulative grade-point average (on a 4.0 scale) of student athletes in 2006 - 07: 3.0
- Number of female engineering students in 2006: 26

From fast facts about Rice Library to detailed data on how many students were history majors between 1998 and 2007, you can find it in the 2007 USI Fact Book. It also includes 10-year trend data on tuition costs, enrollment by various student demographics, and much more.

The Fact Book was compiled by the USI Office of Institutional Research and Assessment.
USI to receive Andy Warhol photographs

The University of Southern Indiana will add approximately 150 photographs by legendary artist Andy Warhol to its permanent art teaching collection.

The gift from the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts includes original Polaroid™ photographs and gelatin silver prints with an insured value of $139,000. USI is one of 183 colleges and universities across the nation to receive a gift through the Andy Warhol Photographic Legacy Program.

USI will receive the photographs in the spring. A display of selected pieces is planned for fall semester in the McCutchan Exhibition Space in the Wright Administration Building.

The aim of the Photographic Legacy Program is to provide greater access to Warhol’s artwork and process.

Jenny Moore, curator of the Photographic Legacy Program, said, “A wealth of information about Warhol’s process and his interactions with his sitters is revealed in these images. Through his rigorous—though almost unconscious—consistency in shooting, the true idiosyncrasies of his subjects were revealed. Often, he would shoot a person or event with both cameras, cropping one in Polaroid color as a ‘photograph’ and snapping the other in black and white as a ‘picture.’

By presenting both kinds of images side by side, the Photographic Legacy Program allows viewers to move back and forth between moments of Warhol’s ‘art,’ ‘work,’ and ‘life’—inseparable parts of a fascinating whole.”

Warhol’s art will be available to students and faculty in their scholarly work. The addition to the teaching collection and the exhibition of the photographs are in keeping with USI’s mission to prepare students to live wisely. Exposure to the arts and culture is an important aspect of that mission.

New Doctor of Nursing Practice program to begin

The initial class of 20 students in the University of Southern Indiana’s first doctoral program, the Doctor of Nursing Practice, will begin study in the fall.

The Indiana Commission for Higher Education approved the new academic program to be implemented by the USI College of Nursing and Health Professions at its December meeting.

Students must have completed a Master of Science in Nursing degree to be eligible for enrollment. The program will serve MSN graduates who practice currently as nurses in a clinical setting, education, or administration. The DNP is an alternative to research-focused doctorates in nursing and is comparable to practice doctorates in pharmacy and physical therapy.

The program, available to both full-time and part-time students, will use a hybrid method of course delivery with on-campus education intensives combined with distance education delivery.

For additional information visit http://health.usi.edu.

Number of organizations served by the USI Center for Applied Research from January 2006 through July 2007

Number of scholarships awarded to bright and deserving students through the USI Foundation’s private scholarship program in 2006-07

Total of USI Foundation assets

More information: www.usi.edu/ir

Click on Fact Book
Donors generate more than $2 million for business and engineering programs

Generous donors have responded overwhelmingly to the need for programmatic support for the new Business and Engineering Center with gifts and pledges exceeding the $2 million goal of the fund-raising effort.

Gifts pledged to date bring the campaign total to $2,029,000 to provide state-of-the-art instructional support for the University’s growing business and engineering programs.

Recent major gifts include $100,000 from Toyota Motor Manufacturing Indiana, Inc. (TMMI).

Shaun Koyama, TMMI president presented the gift in January to fund two computer-assisted design labs and a vibrations lab in the new building.

He made the presentation in an economics class which had been studying concepts used at Toyota.

USI President H. Ray Hoops accepted the generous gift saying that USI’s College of Business and Department of Engineering are partners in providing economic development, innovation, and entrepreneurship for the region.

Of the 8,000 College of Business graduates, more than 5,000 reside within a 50-mile radius of Evansville. They represent a significant portion of the Tri-State’s managerial talent, and they enhance the southern Indiana communities where they live and work.

The University expects a similar impact from the engineering program, which will graduate its third class this year.

Dr. Scott A. Gordon, dean of the Port College of Science and Engineering, said, “The generous contributions for the USI Business and Engineering Center will facilitate our goal of providing USI students with the most modern equipment and instrumentation within state-of-the-art classrooms and laboratories. These gifts will articulate into the ability to teach cutting edge curricula with the tools of tomorrow, producing graduates that are well-prepared for the workforce of the future. These gifts are a testament to the region’s support of our programs and the excitement for future business and engineering collaborations and degree programs.”

A $100,000 gift from Vectren Corporation will provide a study lounge and balcony, computer lab, and conference room on the second floor of the new building.

A $50,000 gift from Integra provides the digital systems lab, and a $50,000 gift from the Alcoa Foundation funds the power and machines lab and classroom.
Dr. Mohammed Khayum, dean of the College of Business, also said the support will help the University prepare students for jobs in a changing workplace. “In the context of demographic, global, and technological forces that are driving profound changes in our society, these gifts will allow us to address the changing needs and expectations of students and faculty,” he said. “These contributions reflect the forward-looking orientation of the donors. Their support will allow us to create flexible, adaptable, and technologically integrated teaching and learning spaces.”

In addition to the TMMI gift, the following major gifts to the Campaign for the Business and Engineering Center have been received since the report in the December 2007 issue of USI Magazine:

- **Alcoa Foundation**, $50,000, power and machines lab and classroom
- **ARC Construction and Danny and Patricia Bateman**, $25,000, teaching computer lab
- **Casino Aztar**, $25,000, physics classroom
- **Deig Bros. Lumber and Construction Company**, $25,000, computer lab
- **Empire Contractors Inc.**, $25,000, materials/soils lab
- **Mary Pelle and the late Raymond H. Goebel**, $25,000, teaching computer lab
- **Bob and Judy Griffin**, $25,000, project management lab
- **Hafer Associates PC**, $25,000, classroom
- **Harding Shymanski and Company PSC**, $25,000, classroom
- **Integra Bank**, $50,000, digital systems lab
- **Shoe Carnival**, $25,000, classroom
- **Vectren Corporation**, $100,000, study lounge and balcony, computer lab, and conference room

Bonding authorization for the $29.9 million building was approved by the 2007 Indiana General Assembly. Groundbreaking will take place later this year.

**Two recognized for outstanding teaching**

Dr. Shadow J.Q. Robinson and Christine Lovasz-Kaiser are recipients of the 2007–08 Outstanding Teaching Awards funded by private gifts to the USI Foundation. Robinson, assistant professor of physics, received the award for new faculty; Lovasz-Kaiser, who teaches history, received the award for adjunct faculty. Each received a cash stipend and a professional development grant.

**University retirees attending get-togethers**

Larry D. Goss, left, professor emeritus of engineering technology, and Byron C. Wright, vice president emeritus for Business Affairs and treasurer emeritus, were among almost 70 retired faculty and staff members who attended a luncheon in January at the Kennel Club in Evansville. Sherrianne M. Standley, vice president emerita for Advancement, and Suzanne A. Nicholson, president emerita of the USI Foundation and director emerita of University Development, hosted the event. The USI Foundation plans other events for retirees in the coming months.

**New direct deposit service available**

A charitable gift annuity gives you a way to provide for you and your family’s financial future with a dependable, guaranteed lifetime income. In addition, it may offer significant tax advantages.

Recently the USI Foundation added a new service—direct deposit of quarterly gift annuity payments at the financial institution of your choice. You receive an e-mail notice advising you the payment has been made.

For more information about charitable gift annuities or other gift-planning ideas, contact the USI Foundation at 812/464-1918.
How-to from campus experts
With faculty expertise that covers more than 70 majors and a community of administrative and staff people who keep the campus running, the University of Southern Indiana is a repository of all manner of information. On the following pages, we’ve gathered some of our experts to share their know-how with you. You, too, can harness the mental capital of the University by putting their advice, tips, or instructions to work for you. What other information do USI experts have to share? Check out our faculty experts guide at http://www.usi.edu/newsinfo/experts/index.asp.
Dr. Paul K. Doss, associate professor of geology and Integra Distinguished Professor for 2007, delivered this advice as the speaker at University of Southern Indiana Commencement in December.

Each of us leaves three footprints on this planet. The first and most important footprint you leave is your family. Keep it close, nurture, love, and cherish it. It’ll pay you back.

The second footprint we leave is real and measurable. We need to make this one small. You don’t have to buy a Prius to make a real impact. Let me share a list:

- Reduce (waste). After you’ve done that, recycle.
- Use canvas shopping bags instead of wasteful plastic ones.
- Drive a little less, and a bit slower. Take a walk in the woods.
- Use compact fluorescent bulbs…and turn off the lights when you leave a room.
- Eat a little less meat.
- “Buy local” and grow an organic vegetable garden.
- Wash clothes in cold water.
- Stop using drive-through windows.

Your third footprint comes from your “calling.” This isn’t just your job or career, but what you do. This footprint needs to be big. You don’t know where your calling will ultimately take you, so get ready for the unknown!

Leave two big footprints—your family and your calling—for everyone to see, feel, and benefit from. For your Earth and your children, do your best to make your real footprints small and insignificant.
Write a memoir

Dr. Julia A. Galbus is associate professor of English and associate chair of the Department of English.

Perhaps you have told yourself that someday you’d like to keep a journal. You’d like to record your family history, gather some details about your life, respond to the news, or use writing as a way to find solitude.

Most of us were trained to write for teachers first. Writing came with expectations, rules, and grades. If you want to keep a journal, there are only two requirements: You have to be willing to break the rules, and you have to let your writing be your teacher.

Pick your topic, your timing, and your place. It doesn’t matter how often you write or what you write about. Start where you are. Recall memories. Research an old neighborhood. Write letters to someone you have lost, make lists, or ask questions and give answers.

Interview family members, sketch characters, describe places you have spent time. Be vivid.

Write in a blank book, use a computer file, scribble on index cards held by a rubber band, or use your PDA. Write to music or write in silence. Sketch in the margins. Play with color, font, layout, or ignore the visual entirely. Write in fragments of time, or write when the rest of your household is asleep. Keep it private or offer to share. Try a blog. Experiment. If you find a method you like, keep it.

If you get derailed easily, change it until you figure out what works best for you. A journal is an invitation. Be your own guide.

University of Southern Indiana

How-to Master the golf swing

Matt Scheessele ’02, marketing, a golfer on the USI men’s team from 1997–2001, has coached the team since 2003 and is the assistant professional at Helfrich Hills Golf Course in Evansville.

Golf is an intriguing and challenging game. It provides a different level of fun, relaxation, and competition to each player.

Any golfer can benefit from this list of basics:

- Grip. Choose a grip that is fundamentally sound and repeat that grip each time you hold the club. This is the first step to having a solid golf swing.
- Stance. Maintain a shoulder-width stance with weight distributed equally or slightly on the front foot. This allows for solid contact and more consistent results.
- Weight transfer. Pretend you are in a box and cannot touch the sides with your hips. Your back leg should serve as a brace during the back swing and the same for your front leg on the down swing. Finish with your weight on your front foot. Your body should rotate versus slide during the swing.
- Hit the ball first. Strike down on the ball. You must hit the ball before striking the ground. The divot should be in front of where the ball was sitting. Avoid scooping or trying to lift the ball. The dimples on the ball and the loft of the club are sufficient to get the ball in the air.
- Follow through. Chase the ball toward the target. After striking the ball, keep the club and your body pointed toward the intended target.
- Hold the pose. When you have finished the swing hold the position. This helps maintain balance.
Balance the demands of everyday life

Brian G. Hinterscher and Jennifer R. Blackstone, University Division academic advisors, present advice on time management through the Success Series workshops sponsored by the Office of Academic Skills.

At some point we all feel rushed. The difficulty of accomplishing everything on our plate for the day can be a challenge. Here are tips to help you balance the demands of everyday life.

• Plan to be most productive when you are most alert. Depending on whether you are a morning or night person, you may not want to schedule an 8 a.m. doctor’s appointment or start laundry around midnight.
• Multitask. Use chunks of waiting time to be most efficient. While laundry is going, unload the dishwasher and pay bills.
• Be realistic. Don’t expect to cram in the PTA meeting, your child’s ball game, grocery shopping, chores, and dinner across town in one night. This would put unneeded stress into your life.
• Know your limitations. Say no when it’s necessary! Overextending yourself puts strain on your health and family, causing you to be less effective, less efficient, and just plain exhausted.
• Prioritize. Take time to think about what needs to be done. If necessary, make a to-do list, accomplishing the most important and pressing tasks first.

Cope with the loss of a pet

Dr. Wendy G. Turner is associate professor of social work and director of the Master of Social Work program. The human-animal bond is a topic of special interest in her research.

For those who regard pets as members of the family, the loss of a companion animal can be devastating. Our pets sleep near us, watch television with us, and provide comfort, friendship, and entertainment. When our special companions are no longer a part of our lives through death or separation, we grieve for them.

Pet owners are often surprised by their intense emotions and grief, and they do not know how to deal with the emotional pain.

Grief is a normal and natural part of the bereavement process. While each person grieves in his or her own way, most bereaved pet owners experience these common stages, often in varying order: shock, anger, depression, and acceptance.

Pet owners sometimes are hurt by offhand remarks. People who have never had or never lost a pet may not understand the depth of feelings. An acquaintance who says, “It was just a cat” does not comprehend the pet owner’s feelings.

It helps pet owners to talk with others who can understand and validate their feelings. It may mean seeking support from someone other than your usual support person.

A final issue often arises following the death of a companion animal: whether or not to get another pet. A beloved pet can never be replaced, but pet owners at some point may wish to welcome another animal into the family. Grieving pet owners should take the time they need to adjust and work through the stages of grief.
Keep your children fit

Dr. Barbara Williams is program director for occupational therapy and assistant professor of occupational therapy.

Start early with your child to ingrain healthy habits. The environments parents create for children are extremely important in fending off obesity in a world where social and cultural influences often promote a sedentary lifestyle and a high-calorie diet.

Research indicates that one-on-one interaction is one of the most important elements in reducing obesity rates. Here’s what you can do for your family:

• **Model a healthy lifestyle.** Demonstrate exercise and a proper diet on a daily basis. Let children see you running on the treadmill, lifting weights, or working in the yard. Select fruits and other healthy snacks. Make these actions habitual and expected.
• **Explain benefits.** As children age, discuss the benefits of healthy living. Talk about the result of unhealthy choices, such as diabetes and heart disease.
• **Encourage participation.** Provide your children opportunities to participate in activities. They can join organized sports, take karate lessons, or play a new video game that requires physical activity. Take them to the gym with you.
• **Choose and prepare.** Take children to the grocery to choose healthy foods they like. Have children help prepare these items.

Preventing weight gain is much easier than achieving weight loss. At adolescence, your child undergoes more biological and psychosocial transformation than at any other stage of life except infancy. Waiting until this stage of development to address healthy living makes it more difficult to make the appropriate lifestyle changes to live healthy.

Recognize fear in others

Dr. Christopher M. Bloom, assistant professor of psychology, specializes in research on fear.

**Face of fear**
- The corrugator muscle which controls the eyebrows increases in tension, furrowing the brow.
- The zygomatic muscle which controls the smile shows a decrease in tension, producing a frown.

**Hair raising**
- The erector pilorum, tiny muscle fibers attached to each hair follicle, produce goose-bumps, making hair stand up. In a frightened animal, this serves to make the animal seem larger and a more difficult target.

**Frozen with fear**
- A portion of the midbrain, the periaqueductal gray, prompts the body to freeze in response to fear. Some believe this to be an evolutionary throwback to when most of our predators (e.g., lizards) had excellent vision for movement.
The same “OK” gesture is a signal for money in Japan, zero in France, a homosexual in Peru and Ethiopia, and sex in Mexico.

In China and Korea, to beckon someone (the “come here” gesture), the palm faces down and the fingers make a scratching motion. To motion someone palm-up while curling the index finger is rude. It is how one would beckon a dog.

Waving the hand with the palm out (our “goodbye” gesture) signals “I don’t understand” in Japan, and our “go away” signal actually means “come here.”

Be sure you know the proper “peace” gesture. To do it in reverse is obscene in Australia, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom, to name a few.

And a warning to our troops in the Middle East: avoid the “thumbs up” gesture. Seriously.

Ronda Priest, associate professor of sociology and chair of the Department of Sociology, has an area of special interest in cross-cultural communication. When she traveled frequently across the border while living in California, she was interested in what the Mexican people were telling her through gestures.

Imagine this: You are traveling in Brazil and ask a native for directions. Fortunately, you learned some Portuguese, so you basically comprehend the words. To show you understand, you gesture “OK” and smile. Suddenly, the person is screaming at you (or worse). What happened?

While we tend to pay more attention to words, non-verbal statements account for most of our communication and are trusted more than our words. Non-verbal language varies by culture just as much as the verbal. American gestures in another country can get us in trouble. In Brazil, the American OK sign is an obscene gesture.

Ironically, when we don’t speak a language, we rely more on non-verbal communication, such as gesturing, to make our point. This is fine as long as you know what your hands are saying.
Analyze a client
and communicate better

Dr. Carl L. Saxby is associate professor of marketing.

Effective sales people adapt their sales presentation and communication methods to match their prospect. One popular way of adapting the sales presentation is based on the social style matrix developed by David Merrill and Roger Reid. They identified the critical dimensions of social style as assertiveness, the degree to which opinions are openly expressed, and responsiveness, the degree to which the prospect expresses emotions such as anger, joy, or sorrow.

Prospects can be classified in one of four large categories:

- **Drivers** (high assertiveness and low responsiveness). Drivers tend to be fast, efficient decision makers that are bottom-line orientated. Their office and desk/workspace are neat. A clock will be prominent as time is essential to drivers. They lean forward, maintain eye contact, speak rapidly, express strong opinions, and exhibit a take-charge attitude. Adapt to this style by using a direct approach that gets to the point quickly and emphasizes the effect on profits. Small talk and technical details are not needed; quick action and follow-up are desired.

- **Amiables** (high responsiveness and low assertiveness). Amiables seek close personal relationships, are slow to make decisions, avoid conflict, speak more slowly, tend to avoid risks, and seldom express a strong personal opinion. Pictures of family, an open/friendly office/work area, and personal mementos will usually be on display. Amiables often say things contrary to their personal opinion just to please others, thus it can be difficult to ascertain the amiable's true feeling and needs. Amiables generally respond to product warranties and clear explanations of how the product will affect employee satisfaction. Expect a slow decision process and build consensus among people involved in the decision.

- **Expressives** (high assertiveness and high responsiveness). Like amiables, expressives are warm and approachable, but personal relationships tend to be more for personal gain and recognition. Like drivers, expressives tend to speak quickly and express strong opinions. Expressives commonly have a cluttered desk/work area, may dress flamboyantly or very casually, have motivational posters displayed, and love to play with toys. Adapt to this style by using graphics to display product benefits, utilizing testimonials, and avoiding technical details. Expressives will respond positively to sales presentations that place the expressive in the role of innovator.

- **Analyzers** (low assertiveness and low responsiveness). Analyzers prefer facts, figures, and logic to people and are suspicious of personal relationships. Frequently, analyzers have a technical background, dress casually, display achievement awards, and have a workspace cluttered with work-orientated material. Adapt to analyzers by presenting solid, tangible evidence of the product's benefits. Analyzers are impressed with technical expertise and long-term benefits, not with personal opinion.
When Lynda Sharrett-Field completes an undergraduate degree in psychology at the University of Southern Indiana this spring, she will fulfill a path that took detours through Alaska and a family business in her hometown of Princeton, Indiana.

After graduating from high school in 1989, Sharrett-Field enrolled as a psychology major at Ball State University. Before earning a degree, she felt a pull for adventure.

“You’re young and you want to see the world,” she said.

She worked for five-and-a-half years on fishing boats in Alaska. A cook at first, she became an able-bodied seaman after earning a license from the Coast Guard.

“One boat caught fire,” she said, “and we had to abandon ship at sea. We climbed down three stories on the outside of the ship, and the crew of a tugboat caught us as we jumped off. I called my parents from Dutch Harbor, and they watched the fire live on CNN.”

Sharrett-Field left the seaman’s life behind when her father Tom Sharrett opened an automobile dealership. As his intended successor, she joined him to learn every aspect of the business. She was certified as a dealer candidate after completing the GM dealer academy.

Her face became familiar to many people in the Evansville area when she and her son Thomas, now 6, and daughter Sidney, now 5, were featured along with her father in television commercials for the dealership.

“We did well, and then my dad got sick,” she said. His health remains affected by cancer and a stroke. Tom Sharrett GM Superstore closed in 2004.

“After closing the dealership, I knew I wanted to go back and get a degree,” Sharrett-Field said.

Her interest in psychology may have been kindled by her dad’s career in sales.

“My dad loved to study people’s behavior,” she said. “You know when somebody wants to buy a car by their body language and the questions they ask. They assume ownership when they speak. They talk about what they’re going to do with the car—that it fits into the garage, that the cup holders are in the right place.”

As a psychology major at USI, Sharrett-Field has served as a student assistant to Dr. Joseph J. Palladino,
a dream

Lynda Sharrett-Field in psychology

professor of psychology and chair of the Department of Psychology, and Dr. Christopher M. Bloom, assistant professor of psychology.

Sharrett-Field made two presentations at psychology meetings this semester. At the 20th Southeastern Conference on the Teaching of Psychology she explained a visualization developed by Palladino to help students understand how an impulse travels through a neuron. Palladino uses student volunteers whose fingers, body, and legs represent parts of the neuron.

In early April, Sharrett-Field presented research about sleep at the Mid-America Undergraduate Research Conference, established at USI in 1982 by Palladino. This year’s conference was at Thomas More College near Cincinnati.

Sharrett-Field’s research was an update of a study Palladino conducted about 25 years ago when he published an article on popular misconceptions concerning sleep and dreams. The National Sleep Foundation (NSF) has since been created to increase awareness of the importance of sleep and an understanding of sleep disorders.

“If the NSF has been successful, we should see a significant difference in people’s understanding,” Sharrett-Field said as she prepared to administer the updated questionnaire to USI students in introductory psychology classes.

Sharrett-Field’s next goal is to earn a doctorate in psychology and teach at the college level. She will pursue a Ph.D. in the University of Kentucky’s experimental psychology program with a concentration in behavioral neuroscience and psychopharmacology. Palladino said she is well prepared to serve as a teaching assistant in a doctoral program.

“She’s incredibly bright and incredibly responsible. If she says she’s going to do ‘x,’ she will do it,” he said.

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Test your knowledge of sleep

What do you know about sleep?

Test your understanding with these questions from the sleep and dream information questionnaire administered to students by USI psychology major Lynda Sharrett-Field.

Answer each statement true or false.

1. Some people require as few as four hours of sleep a night to feel well rested.
   (TRUE)

2. More than half of American adults have suffered from insomnia in the past year.
   (TRUE)

3. During sleep your brain and body are in a resting state.
   (FALSE)

4. Sleep loss is associated with obesity in children and adults.
   (TRUE)

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University of Southern Indiana
Sofball player Kathy Wood (Lynnville, Indiana) knows pain and the rewards of working through it. The senior majoring in exercise science tore her anterior cruciate ligament last season, an injury that put her reputation for dedication, hard work, and leadership to the ultimate test. She returned to the field in less than a month and led the Eagles at season end with a .362 batting average and 10 stolen bases. She and teammates entered the 2008 season with a promising outlook.

The injury last year happened prior to the Screaming Eagles’ Great Lakes Valley Conference opener. The team was about to close out a doubleheader sweep of St. Mary-of-the-Woods College on the USI softball field. With one out in the top of the seventh inning, Wood made a charge from her center-field position to catch a fly ball. She stepped wrong and fell to the ground in agonizing pain.

A couple of days later Wood realized her worst fears: it was a torn ACL that would require surgery. “It was tough,” Wood said. “I’m an active person who likes to work out, ride a bike, and move around. With this type of injury I wouldn’t be able to do that.”

It looked as if Wood, an All-GLVC and All-Region performer a year earlier, would have to watch from the dugout as she prepared for surgery. However, she worked hard in rehab, and with reassurance from doctors and trainers that no further damage would be done, she postponed the surgery until the end of the season.

The injury occurred March 20, 2007. With a little help from teammates and a lot of self motivation, Wood returned to the field on April 13 and to the starting lineup on the following day. She did not miss a start from that point and helped the Eagles go 7-2-1 in the final 10 regular season games.

“They were great about it,” Wood said, describing how teammates and friends handled the injury. “My roommates brought me flowers and my teammates would pick me up for practice when I was on crutches and listen to me talk about my rehab. They made sure I wasn’t doing too much. They were acting like my mom, but it was good.”

Head Coach Sue Kunkle said, “I think the team almost expected her to be back. Kathy has an amazing work ethic and her teammates admired the fact that she returned. They were relieved to have her back in the lineup.”

Wood’s play was so impressive that she was named to the All-GLVC team for the second straight season despite missing nearly a month of action. She also earned Academic All-District V honors for the second straight season.

Looking back, Wood sees the injury as a positive point in her life. “It showed me that as an athlete, I do have limits and I’m not invincible,” she said. “It helped me realize how much more determined and how much harder I want to work to play this sport.”

Wood wants to become a physical therapist. Having gone through physical therapy herself, she believes she will be able to impart the drive needed to recover.

She credits her family’s influence with helping her develop determination. “I have a lot of self-motivation, but I give a lot (of credit) to my family,”
The Great Lakes Valley Conference will induct former USI men's basketball coach Bruce Pearl and former USI softball All-American Amber Huse Tooley '96 into its Hall of Fame in May. USI Hall of Fame cross country coach Bill Stegemoller, who was selected for the GL VC honor shortly before his death last year, also will be inducted.

Pearl served as head coach of the USI men's basketball program from 1992–2001, developing the Eagles into one of the top basketball programs in the country. Considered one of the finest coaches in GLVC history, Pearl guided his teams to four GLVC Championships and into the NCAA Division II Tournament in each of his nine seasons at USI. The Eagles won the school's first national championship in 1995. Pearl is now men's basketball coach at the University of Tennessee.

Tooley excelled on the softball diamond, guiding the Eagles to two GLVC Championships. An inaugural member of the USI Athletic Hall of Fame in 2007, she was a first-team Academic All-American in 1994 and 1995 and a first-team All-American in 1994. Tooley lives in Noblesville, Indiana, where she is a preschool teacher at Talking Time Learning Center.

Stegemoller created the USI men's cross country program in 1979 and proceeded to win nine straight GLVC crowns (1979-88). During his career at USI, the Eagles won 12 conference titles. He also directed the Eagles into the national spotlight with a third-place finish at the 1983 NCAA II National Championships and to 12 appearances in the championship meet. Stegemoller coached 16 All-Americans.

The inductees join USI alumni Stan Gouraud '00, LeAnn Freeland '97, Elly Rono '98, Jim Nolan, and Dr. Charles Bertram in the GLVC Hall of Fame.
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Alumni Council Meeting and Orientation
5:45 p.m., USI Foundation

Greater Indianapolis Alumni Chapter Meeting
7 p.m., Rick’s Café Boatyard, Indianapolis

USI Day at Churchill Downs
Louisville, Kentucky

USI Night with the Otters
Picnic and baseball game, Bosse Field

Greater Indianapolis USI Scholarship Golf Scramble
Noon, Eagle Creek Golf Club, Indianapolis

Greater Indianapolis Chapter Alumni and Entering Student Picnic, Indianapolis Indians baseball game
5:30 p.m., Victory Field

USI Day at Holiday World

Alumni Fun Golf Scramble
11:30 a.m., Helfrich Hills Golf Course, Evansville

All alumni are invited to attend these events.
1970s

Jeffrey D. Simmons ’72, sociology, has taken the position of master-level individual and family therapist for Lampion Center in Evansville.

Douglas F. Claybourn ’77, communications, has been appointed bank relationship manager/private banking at Fifth Third Bank in Evansville.

Karen Sweat Myers ’78, communications, received the Real Hero Educator Award sponsored by the University of Evansville for her volunteer work.

1980s

Brian E. Hester ’81, elementary education, was promoted to regional manager, personal lines and small business at Old National Bank in Evansville.

Phyllis Wells Oeth ’81, social science, has been named assistant director of the Office of Special Events at USI.

Kathy L. George ’83, accounting, has taken the position of director of project management at Card Management Corporation in Evansville.

Terri L. Lewis ’83, management, is the owner/manager of Heusler Inn Traditional Dining in Mount Vernon, Indiana.

Donita Cassidy Wolf ’83, accounting, recently merged her realty firm with ERA First Advantage Realty where she is a realtor/broker in Evansville.

Steven D. Shore ’85, management, has taken the position of executive vice president of operations at Universal 1 Credit Union in Dayton, Ohio.

Jay D. Harvey ’86, accounting, was promoted to assistant vice president at Old National Bank in Evansville.

David L. Higgins ’87, psychology, has attained board certification as a professional Christian psychotherapist at River Valley Behavioral Health in Owensboro, Kentucky.

1990s

Steven B. Dealph ’88, marketing, is a senior analyst with the organizational readiness team at Warner Bros. Entertainment, Inc., in Burbank, California.

Kenneth F. Egler ’88, finance, has joined Brown-Forman as a business systems analyst in Louisville, Kentucky.

Kenneth D. Ferguson ’88, psychology, teaches at Heritage Middle School in Maryville, Tennessee.

Troy D. Stoll ’88, accounting, has recently founded Fort Knox Investment Management in Washington, Indiana.

Eric R. Williams ’89, business administration, is the Vanderburgh County sheriff in Evansville.

1990s

Pamela M. Block ’90, civil engineering technology, has been promoted to manager of Ambient and Consulting Services of Air Quality Services, LLC in Evansville.

Stephen Woodall named USI director of security

Stephen Woodall ’78, has joined the University of Southern Indiana as director of security. He was with the Vanderburgh County Sheriff’s Office for 28 years, most recently as captain in the professional standards unit.

Woodall has significant experience in the areas of department management, law enforcement and public safety, and staff management and training, with 17 years of command-level experience and 10 years of investigative experience. During his tenure with the Sheriff’s Office, he received the Meritorious Service Certificate and the Bronze Merit Award.

Woodall noted that the University has developed and grown its security and emergency preparedness programs over the years in line with the growth of the campus, which continues to evolve. One of the next changes on the horizon is a new perimeter roadway that will improve traffic patterns.

“The University has been changing for all the right reasons,” said Woodall, who saw tremendous growth in the county during his time with the Sheriff’s Office. “You have to be open minded and receptive to change. Even though the University has grown since I attended, it still has that family atmosphere. It’s a pleasure to work with the people here.”

Since becoming director of security in January, Woodall has enjoyed renewing acquaintances and working with administrators he recalls from his student days, including John L. Deem, associate vice president for Student Affairs, and Barry K. Schonberger, dean of students.

Woodall was a member of the USI chapter of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity. He earned an undergraduate degree in sociology at USI and holds a master’s degree in public administration from Indiana State University.

A graduate of the FBI National Academy, he was president of his class at the National Sheriff’s Institute and graduated second in his class from the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy.

Woodall succeeds Barry Hart, who retired after 17 years with USI.
Eleanor Aydt Naas ’90, elementary education, is a first-grade teacher at Saint Philip School in Posey County, Indiana.

Sharon Agee Rafter ’90, elementary education, is a teacher with the Deer Valley Unified School District in Phoenix, Arizona.

Richard A. Vach ’90, communication, is the editor and publisher of Play Tennis Florida, in Jacksonville, Florida.

Shannon McCulley Wathen ’90, marketing, has been promoted to vice president, senior director of relationship management at Card Management Corporation in Evansville.

Stephanie J. Morris ’91, marketing, joined F.C. Tucker Emge Realtors as an agent in Evansville.

Karen Kopec Wilson ’92, English, is the owner of ADAPT Counseling Services in Evansville.

Stacy Reed Bitter ’93, accounting, is vice president and chief financial officer for Preferred, Inc., in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Angela Catt Brawdy ’93, accounting ’99, Master of Business Administration, was recently honored as the 2007 Human Resources Professional of the Year by the Evansville Area Human Resource Association.

The 2008 class of the USI Athletic Hall of Fame was inducted during Homecoming festivities in February. The Hall of Fame’s second class includes five former players and two former coaches.

Chris Bowles ’94 (men’s basketball) was USI’s first Player of the Year for Division II Basketball and was named All-American three times. After leaving USI, he played extensively as a professional in Europe and South America. Bowles is a counselor for at-risk youth in the Hopkins County School District in Kentucky.

LeAnn Freeland ’97 (women’s basketball) led the women’s basketball team in 1997 to the NCAA National Championship game. In 2007, she was named head women’s basketball coach at the University of Indianapolis.

Stephen Jackson ’95 (men’s basketball) is USI’s all-time leading scorer with 2,216 career points and is only one of two Eagles to score more than 2,000 career points. He works in sales at Ft. Wayne (Indiana) Lincoln Mercury.

Sheri Kaiser Scott ’94 (volleyball, women’s basketball) was USI’s first Academic All-American. In volleyball, she was named GLVC Player of the Year in 1992 and 1993. Kaiser also was a member of the women’s basketball team from 1990-93. She is a payroll implementation manager at ADP in Louisville, Kentucky.

Todd Niemeier ’95 (baseball) is USI’s all-time leader in wins (25) and was a two-time preseason All-American. He was drafted by the Seattle Mariners in 1996. Niemeier is an Evansville optometrist.

Bruce Pearl (men’s basketball) helped put USI into the national spotlight as head coach by leading the Eagles to the national championship in 1995 and the finals in 1994. He has gone on to have success in Division I at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the University of Tennessee.

Ruth Waller (softball, women’s basketball, women’s tennis) was instrumental in the birth of women’s athletics at USI. Waller coached the women’s basketball team for nine of its first 10 years. She began the USI softball program and was the first women’s tennis coach. She is now director of USI intramural/recreational sports.

For more information on the USI Athletic Hall of Fame, go to www.usi.edu/sports/halloffame/index_hof.asp.
Jennifer Gogel McGeHee ’93, accounting, has been promoted to controller at Heritage Federal Credit Union in Evansville.

Brent A. Stevens ’93, Master of Science in Education, is assistant principal of Perry Heights Middle School in Evansville.

Pui Fong Yiu ’93, business administration, is a sales supervisor at Ta Yang Silicone Rubber Industries Company Ltd. in Hong Kong, China.

Paul S. Minnis ’94, communications, is a reporter at The Columbus Republic newspaper in Columbus, Indiana.

John W. Wargel ’94, elementary education, is a fifth-grade teacher at Saint James School in Haubstadt, Indiana.

Mitchell A. Brockey ’95, business administration, is a quality assurance external auditor for Schwarz Pharma in Seymour, Indiana. He has completed a master’s degree in organizational management and is working on another master’s in regulatory affairs.

Jon D. Carl ’95, social science teaching, ’98, Master of Science in Education, was recognized as Indiana’s No Child Left Behind 2007, American Star of Teaching award recipient by the U.S. Department of Education. He also was honored at the 20th anniversary Technology and Learning Conference in Nashville and has been selected as one of the National School Board Association’s “20 to Watch” educators for 2007. Carl teaches at Reitz High School in Evansville.

Harry W. Clark ’95, business administration, is a compliance analyst at DuCharme, McMillen & Associates in Indianapolis.

Shane E. Rumsey ’95, communications, is an instructor at Brown College in Mendota Heights, Minnesota.

Sharon Beckman Shumate ’95, communications, has joined The Columbus Republic newspaper as the advertising director in Columbus, Indiana.

Cynthia Mahaney Crowley ’96, business administration, has been appointed director of employee development and process improvement at Heritage Federal Credit Union in Evansville.

Award-winning screenwriter imparts messages of tolerance

Matt Myers ’83 has won second place in the ninth annual One in Ten Screenplay Contest, a competition focusing on gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender issues. Myers received a cash prize for his screenplay An Improbable Life, and it will be presented to studios, agents, producers, and managers in New York and Los Angeles.

A USI graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in radio/television, Myers has traveled the United States and the world producing documentary, industrial, and independent films for more than 20 years. He has worked on a number of television shows and films, including John Sayles’ Eight Men Out.

An Improbable Life is based on the life of Oscar Wilde, the poet, playwright, and novelist who lost everything, including his wife and two children, when he was imprisoned for “crimes of indecency.”

Myers tells the story from the point of view of Wilde’s son Vyvyan.

“He only knows his father as a loving man who takes him to the beach, to swim and build sandcastles, and reads children’s stories to him,” Myers said.

Wilde’s double life is revealed to his son through a series of perplexing events. “It’s almost like a mystery that’s happening. His father’s books are being pulled off shelves. His name is being obliterated from plays. Vyvyan’s not sure why his father is becoming a pariah, but he understands things have gone wrong in their lives.”

Wilde is one of Myers’s favorite writers. “I always found it tragic that a man who was so talented would be persecuted like that,” he said. “And maybe I’m looking at it from different eyes since it’s a totally different time period, but I also feel that something very similar could happen today. It doesn’t take much to turn people against others if they don’t deem them to be like themselves.”

An Improbable Life is meant to be a lesson in tolerance, a recurring theme in Myers’ work. He is currently at work on a documentary about survivors of the Terezin concentration camp, a unique camp populated with prominent artists, performers, and intellectuals. Myers and Trish, his wife and producer, traveled from Evansville to the Czech Republic to interview six women who had shared a room in Terezin’s children’s home.

The documentary, with the working title Children of a Model Ghetto, is in post-production. Myers hopes that it will be complete by September, when he and Trish will return to the Czech Republic. Myers also wrote a screenplay, Model Ghetto, as part of his Master of Fine Arts degree in screenwriting and film studies from Hollins University in Roanoke, Virginia.

Myers’ work also includes a documentary on sculptor Don Gummer, who completed a fountain for Maclure Square in New Harmony, Indiana, in 2002. The documentary accompanied a Gummer exhibit at Evansville Museum and other museums around the country.

For more about Myers’ work, go to www.matt-myers.com.
Erin Johnson Gibson ’96, communications, is a journalism instructor, student publications advisor at USI. She recently completed a master’s degree in mass communication and media arts at Southern Illinois University Carbondale and took first place in the radio documentary category of the Broadcast Education Association Audio Festival for “Internationally Born, Indiana Raised,” a documentary on international adoption that was part of her graduate research project.

Elizabeth A. Jackson ’96, Master of Business Administration, has taken the position of vice president of Human Resources at Southwestern Indiana Mental Health Center, Inc., in Evansville.

Jose Manning ’97, accounting, was promoted to assistant vice president, senior education specialist at Fifth Third Bank in Evansville.

Allyson Singer Breeden ’98, political science, has been named partner at Ziemer, Stayman, Weitzel & Shoulders, LLP in Evansville.

Penny Hale Garrett ’98, business, has joined Keller Schroeder as a network consultant in Evansville.

Photographer Paul Van Hoy II builds worldwide reputation

With a magazine client list of Forbes, Bride Magazine, Martha Stewart Living, Country Living, and more, Paul D. Van Hoy II ’04 is a portrait photographer and photojournalist. He resides in Rochester, New York, where he recently earned his Master of Fine Arts in fine art photography from the Rochester Institute of Photography.

His work has been published in many photographic magazines and will appear in Creative Quarterly’s Best of the Best where he is being acknowledged as their photographer of the year. In the March American Photo on Campus, his thesis work entitled “Bystander” is featured. In the 2007 Microsoft Future Pro Photographer competition, Van Hoy emerged with the Grand Prize from thousands of top-level entries from around the world. He was the lone United States prize winner; others came from Asia, Europe, and Canada.

Van Hoy started his professional career taking wedding photography while in Evansville.

He studied at Ivy Tech Community College and transferred to USI to complete a degree in design and interactive media.

He books about 25 weddings a year and provides services throughout the United States and internationally. He chooses his clients carefully. During an interview published in Professional Photographer Magazine last May, Van Hoy said he must establish a connection with his subjects to represent them effectively in his photographs.

“You can be a great photographer, but without that relationship, the photography you walk away with is only an artifice of something that will never be understood.”

His philosophy is summed up on his Web page at www.fotoimpressions.com. “I’m a portrait photographer, a hunter/gatherer of forms, faces and expressions. I am most interested in vulnerability and rare moments of discontinuity in which defining moments materialize and disintegrate simultaneously. For me, this is what street photography is all about. It is crucial that the photographer be improvisational not only on a technical level, but his or her spontaneity should also extend to the persuasions necessary to gain the momentary trust of a desired subject.”

In addition to his commercial photography, Van Hoy is an educator in the Western New York area.
Go where the hills are painted a thousand shades of green and stay in charming Kilkenny and the Camelot-town of Killarney. The castles and ancient abbeys of medieval Kilkenny provide an intriguing contrast to its contemporary shops, design galleries, and restaurants. And Killarney, surrounded by idyllic lakes, mountains, islands and waterfalls, is a wondrous town you will never forget. Enjoy the spectacular scenery of the Dingle Peninsula; visit historic Blarney Castle and Dublin, Ireland’s capital, and tour the famous Waterford Crystal Factory.

Experience it for yourself!
Two named to Indy’s Best and Brightest

Two University of Southern Indiana graduates are among 100 persons honored as Indy’s Best and Brightest for 2007. The awards, sponsored by Junior Achievement of Central Indiana and KPMG LLP, recognize outstanding young professionals (age 40 and under) in Central Indiana.

Elizabeth Childers ’00, business administration, is director of corporate relations for SGI. She was among 10 finalists in the health and life sciences category.

Childers set and met a $2 million revenue goal for her employer. She also has created and led her company’s government services division, servicing the Indiana Department of Administration, Bureau of Motor Vehicles, Department of Revenue, and other divisions.

She serves on the board of the Healthcare Businesswomen’s Association and the national HBA leadership conference committee.

Kena S. Hollingsworth ’98, English and Spanish, is a foundng partner of Hollingsworth, Jocham & Zivitz, PC. She was one of 10 finalists in the law category.

Just a few years after graduating from law school, Hollingsworth formed her own law firm with two partners. She is a frequent author and speaker on family law. She serves on the Indianapolis Bar Association’s task force to create a resource manual for family law practitioners.

She also serves on the boards of the FBI Citizens’ Academy and the Salvation Army and was chosen by Indiana Business Journal for a Top 40 Under 40 honor.

Jared T. Linn ’01, science teaching, has accepted the position of environmental manager with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management’s Office of Air Quality in Indianapolis.

Ben D. Joergens ’02, marketing, has been promoted to commercial lending representative at Old National Bank in Evansville.

Erin M. Bush ’03, public relations and advertising, is a human resources recruiter for Deaconess Hospital in Evansville.

Erica Volz Farmer ’03, elementary education, is a kindergarten teacher at Joshua Academy Charter School in Evansville.

Anthony D. Hurst ’03, philosophy, has joined Olsen, White & Hambidge, LLP, as an associate attorney in Evansville.

Kira Crowdus Vaal ’03, interpersonal organizational communications, has been named assistant director of Development, Athletics and Corporate giving at USI.

Jennifer Fonner Elsass ’04, accounting and professional services/finance, is a senior accountant with Bover, Markey, Fedorovich & Company in Akron, Ohio.

Sara Stoops Gallegos ’04, public relations and advertising, has joined Deaconess Health System as a public relations assistant in Evansville.

Sarah Flory Granger ’04, Master of Social Work, is a therapist in private practice at Life Designs in Elizabethtown, Kentucky.

Sheila L. Lehman ’04, accounting and professional services, is a senior tax analyst with CTS Corporation in Elkhart, Indiana.

Stephanie Johns Mikulski ’04, electrical engineering technology, is a project electrical engineer at Whirlpool Corporation in Evansville.

Angela C. Niemeier ’04, management, is an agency coordinator for Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance in Jeffersonville, Indiana.

Brian J. Peroutka ’04, finance, has joined Loans Unlimited as a loan originator in Evansville.

Andrew N. Rice ’04, marketing, is a financial representative at Northwestern Mutual Financial Network in Evansville.
Debra L. Smith ’04, Spanish/political science, is the director of leadership and service programming at Converse College in Spartanburg, South Carolina.

Chad J. Wingert ’04, communications, has been promoted to officer at Fifth Third Bank in Wadesville, Indiana.

Brian J. Anderson ’05, Master of Business Administration, is a consultant, corporate financial management at Deloitte Consulting LLP in Chicago.

Kyle A. Dodd ’05, marketing, has been promoted to officer at Fifth Third Bank in Evansville.

Nicholas A. Lindy ’05, public relations and advertising, has been promoted to human resources generalist at Shoe Carnival, Inc., in Evansville.

Kelly Bishop Reisinger ’05, Master of Business Administration, has been promoted to assistant vice president, eBusiness application specialist at Old National Bank in Evansville.

Andrea Deig Sandefur ’05, public relations and advertising, has been named an administrative assistant/events coordinator for the Chamber of Commerce of Southwest Indiana.

Pamela J. Van Vorst ’05, Master of Public Administration, has been promoted to staffing manager at Employment Plus in Evansville.

Sarah Basham Will ’05, business administration, has been promoted to human resources manager at Shoe Carnival, Inc., in Evansville.

April McCormick Coughlin ’06, elementary education, is a teacher at Caze Elementary School in Evansville.

Jill N. Ellis ’06, public relations and advertising, has joined Bowen Engineering as marketing manager in Evansville.

Kevin Hammett named chief financial officer at Regency Properties

Kevin L. Hammett ’90, accounting, has joined Regency Properties of Evansville as vice president of accounting and finance/chief financial officer.

He most recently was executive vice president and general manager with SMC Pneumatics (Canada) Ltd. Hammett was also the chief financial officer and secretary/treasurer of SMC's subsidiary companies in the United States and Canada. SMC is headquartered in Indianapolis.

Hammett and his family relocated to Evansville from Oakville, Ontario, Canada. He and his wife Michelle Clark Hammett ’90, marketing, were founding members of the Indianapolis Chapter of the USI Alumni Association. He served as the first president and she was the first secretary. Hammett continues his interest in USI as a member of the Alumni Council.

“I have always had an affinity for the University because I thoroughly enjoyed my time there as a student,” he said. “I was active on campus and feel that I received a great education as well as a well-rounded college experience. The growth of the University has been fantastic and as an alumnus, I am proud to have graduated from USI and want to do whatever I can to continue to support the University.”
Ryan V. Mullen ’06, computer science, has taken the position of store development programmer at Shoe Carnival, Inc., in Evansville.

Brandon W. Frick ’07, finance, has taken the position of business manager at Bob Lueger’s Motors Inc., in Jasper, Indiana.

Randall L. Woodruff ’07, geology, is a geologist at Arcadis in Indianapolis.

Marriages

Alisha M. Chappell ’97, accounting, and Micheal Aman, November 8, 2007


Michelle K. Sutliff ’99, communications, and Bernard Ma, June 22, 2007

Amie N. Whitworth ’99, civil engineering technology, and Jason Lester, July 14, 2007

The race is on for Jarrod Krisiloff

Excitement of growing up around speedway continues with career in family business

Race fans who do not make it in person to the Indianapolis Motor Speedway on May 25 for Indy 500 Race Day can still get a taste of the action.

Selected drivers will have in-car cameras allowing fans to view the race on the Web as it happens. Viewers will see the action from the cockpit just as their chosen driver sees it on the famous oval.

University of Southern Indiana graduate Jarrod Krisiloff ’05 is director of multimedia platforms for Indianapolis Motor Speedway Productions. “We’ve dabbled in this before, but this is the first year we will have a fully integrated program,” he said. “Now with the Internet becoming so mainstream, it’s important to have a polished product.”

Krisiloff earned a degree in advertising/public relations at USI. IMS Productions is the media and technology partner for the Indianapolis Motor Speedway and the Indy Racing League.

Krisiloff’s work in the multimedia aspect of the business is the latest step in his relationship with the family-owned company. He grew up around the racetrack. His first memory of it is driving a go-cart in the parking lot when he was 5 years old. His grandmother, Mari Hulman George, is chairman of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. His mother Josie George is a member of the board. His father Steve Krisiloff was an Indy Car driver and his brother Kyle races in the Nationwide Series.

Jarrod Krisiloff worked as a teenager selling concessions at the company golf course, Brickyard Crossing. Later he helped build rubber-tire crash barriers around the track.

After graduating from USI, he joined IMS Productions as a part-time producer for the Indy Car Series. In that role he traveled to Indy Car races and participated in producing programming for the ESPN series “The Fast Life.” Before accepting his present position, he became a marketing coordinator for the Indy Car Series. Among other responsibilities, he scheduled appearances for drivers and worked with the 20,000-member fan club to plan events and coordinate unique opportunities for its members.

As a youngster, Krisiloff was a racer. He won national championships in BMX racing and Quarter Midget cars. He also won regional championships and competed at the elite level in speed skating through his teen years. A broken neck suffered in a BMX accident at age 9 pretty well changed any thoughts he may have had of athletics as a profession.

Though he’s not on the track himself, being involved in racing is the most exciting environment Krisiloff can imagine. “It’s important to me,” he said. “It’s stressful at times because it’s fast paced. But being in this industry, and with a lot of friends and family involved in it as well, is exciting. It’s kind of like the circus. It’s a family.”

One of Krisiloff’s most meaningful learning experiences at USI was his role in founding the University’s chapter of Kappa Alpha Order. He served as president of the fraternity for three years.

The skills he practiced in dealing with people and following through with deadlines and expectations have proven beneficial in his career.

“We were trying to build something new to add to the Greek life of the University,” he said. “Now I am a part of helping build our company. I take it seriously.”

Krisiloff’s connection to Southwestern Indiana is deeper and older than his connection to the University. He is a descendant of Evansville’s Fendrich and Reitz families. His great-grandmother Mary Fendrich married Anton Hulman Jr., owner of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, in 1926. She was the granddaughter of Mary and Herman Fendrich, the cigar maker. Mary Fendrich, wife of Herman Fendrich, was the daughter of John Augustus Reitz, whose restored Victorian home is an Evansville museum.
Clay A. Hillenburg ’01, business administration/marketing, and Christina Hiller, October 20, 2007

Justine K. Baxter ’03, health services, and Patrick Copeland, November 17, 2007

Kristen L. Pixley ’03, political science, and Sam Denton, October 13, 2007

Mary C. Raver ’03, economics, and Stephen Mulcahy, September 22, 2007

Kaitlin P. Farley ’04, respiratory therapy, and Michael Attnip, Jr., October 20, 2007

Kara S. Hasenour ’05, biology, ’07, science teaching, and Steven Schotter, June, 30, 2007

Kerri M. Hines ’04, public relations and advertising, and Nathan Hart, November 3, 2007

Lauren A. Hennessy ’05, accounting, and Dan Mackey, April 9, 2005

Jenna B. Aldrich ’06, business administration/management, and Andrew Sibert, July 7, 2007

Scott A. Humphrey ’06, accounting, and Brooke R. Yocom ’07, radiologic technology, July 7, 2007


Births

Michelle Clark Hammett ’90, marketing, and Kevin L. Hammett ’90, accounting, daughter, Emerson Lee, March 12, 2007

Geoff A. Gentil ’92, business education, and Kristina, son, Seth Parker, January 8, 2008

Judy Woods Clark ’95, dental hygiene, and Chris, daughter, Erin Elizabeth, February 5, 2008

Michelle Denu Arthur ’96, mathematics, and Jason, son, Ian Patrick, June 5, 2007

Ranell Elpers Rexing ’96, elementary education, and Brian, daughter, Aleah Lawren, February 12, 2007

Jamie Sterling Hooten ’98, elementary education, and Tye, son, Talon Matthew, November 8, 2007

Andrew J. Yochum ’99, biology, and Dana, son, Daven Thomas, February 8, 2008

LeeAnn Race Boggs ’00, accounting, and Mark, daughter, Carlee Ann, March 26, 2007

Brandon F. Robards ’00, English, and Kathy, son, Zackary Beau, December 21, 2007

Brittany Miller Boezman ’01, elementary education, and Brett J. Boezman ’01, elementary education, son, Trenton Jon, July 24, 2007

Crysti Beidler Niven ’01, social work, and Chad, daughter, Ava Gabriella, January 4, 2008

Douglas Meiring ’02, public relations and advertising, and Kristi, son, Xavier Douglas, October 30, 2007


Sara Cheatham Steele ’04, elementary education, and Rhett, daughter, Ayla Claire, February 12, 2007

Sandra Migonis Davis ’05, Master of Business Administration, and Nathan J. Davis ’03, business administration, son, Kyle Rolland, January 14, 2008

Julia Grannemann VanWormer ’06, sociology, and Jason, daughter, Adelaide Jane, October 13, 2007

Tiffany Cosby Fuller ’07, health services, and Jeremy, daughter, Libby Nicole, November 6, 2007

In Memoriam


Elizabeth F. Cissell ’84, accounting, of Newburgh, Indiana, died January 25, 2008. She had worked at Alcoa, Vectren, Schnucks, and Deaconess Hospital.

James A. Torres ’91, English, of Evansville, died December 22, 2007. He was an insurance agent for Torres Insurance for 18 years. He had been president of the Independent Insurance Agents of Southern Indiana since 2006.

Nicole Lemieux Stroud ’03, physical education, of Evansville, died November 22, 2007. She was employed at Toyota in Princeton, Indiana.

Natalie M. Wessel ’07, radiologic imaging science, of Jasper, Indiana, died November 18, 2007. She was a radiology technician at Memorial Hospital Health Care.

Faculty

David Stewart Deering, USI Bookstore manager emeritus, died November 14, 2007, at age 74. He was a graduate of Wabash College and served as a pilot in the Navy. Before joining USI in 1970, he worked at Ohio Valley Sound. He retired from USI in 1994. Memorial contributions may be made to the Jeffrey S. Deering Memorial Scholarship Fund at the USI Foundation.

Tony Thene named Alcoa vice president

Tony Thene ’83 has been named vice president and controller for Alcoa, Inc. He is responsible for the company’s worldwide accounting systems and records, corporate fiduciary financial processes, and the preparation and filing of Alcoa’s financial statements and reports.

During 18 years with Alcoa, Thene has served in a series of financial management positions. Most recently he was director of investor relations, serving as the primary interface with Wall Street analysts and investors. His first job with the company was as senior product accountant at Warrick Operations in Newburgh, Indiana.

Thene earned a bachelor’s degree in accounting from the University of Southern Indiana and an M.B.A. from Case Western Reserve University in 2001. He is a certified public accountant.

Andy Hubbard is president of Evansville Sheet Metal Works

J. Andrew Hubbard M ’98 has been promoted to the position of president of Evansville Sheet Metal Works.

Hubbard becomes the third president in company history. Evansville Sheet Metal Works was founded by his grandfather H. Byron (Barney) Hubbard in 1946 and then headed by his father C. Mark Hubbard, now chairman and chief executive officer.

Andy Hubbard earned a master’s degree in business administration from the University of Southern Indiana. He completed an undergraduate degree at Purdue University.

“Th e USI MBA program was important to me,” Hubbard said. “I was able to complete it while I was working so I maintained continuity in the business while rounding out my skills and knowledge.”

Hubbard is a member of the USI Foundation board. He is the founder and artistic director of the Evansville Chamber Singers. The group specializes in music from the Renaissance to the present.

In Memoriam

Helen M. Mallette, USI arts patron

Helen M. Mallette, a patron of the University of Southern Indiana theatre program, died December 2, 2007, in Evansville. She was 93.

In 1998, when the Liberal Arts Center was under construction, Mallette provided a generous gift to complete interior finishing of the studio theatre. In recognition of the gift, the studio theatre is named in her honor. Mallette also was a patron of The New Harmony Theatre and a past member of the board of the USI Society for Arts and Humanities.

We want to hear from you!

Do you have professional news about yourself to share with fellow graduates? Have you moved? Do you have a suggestion for a story? Let us know! We value your comments via mail (Alumni and Volunteer Services Office, 8600 University Boulevard, Evansville, IN 47712), phone (812/464-1924), FAX (812/464-1956), or e-mail (alumni@usi.edu).
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