



## SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS

INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
IUPUI

# FYI – FEBRUARY 2011

### International Recognition

Historian **Ch. diDier Gondola** has won a fellowship from the European Institutes for Advanced Studies (EURIAS) for the 2011-2012 academic year. Gondola is among fewer than 30 recipients selected from among 700 applicants for the honor. He will spend his fellowship at the Institute of Advanced Studies in Nantes, France and expects to complete the manuscript for his book on "Tropical Cowboys," which looks at the ways in which young people in colonial Kinshasa (Congo) appropriated images from Hollywood cowboy movies to reshape existing patterns of masculinity.

### Research

Professors **Karen Kovacik**, English, and **Robert White**, Sociology, have been awarded 2011 New Frontiers in the Arts & Humanities grants. Kovacik was granted \$32,346 in support of her book project, *Calling out to Yeti: An Anthology of Polish Women Poets*, and White received \$48,011 for a book and film documentary project on the Irish Republican political activism movement.

### Community

On February 3, 2011, the Indiana State House recognized associate faculty member **Richard McCoy** and his **Museum Studies Collections Care and Management** students through concurrent Resolution (HRC-18) sponsored by Senator Jim Merritt and Representative Tom Saunders. The recognition came as a result of the students continued work on the Wikipedia Saves Public Art project, which this fall focused on documenting historic artworks inside and around the Indiana State House.

### Alumni

**Dan Henkel**, a Communication Studies graduate whose service to Liberal Arts includes membership in the Liberal Arts alumni board, and **Diane Spaulding**, a long time member of the Friends of Women's Studies board, are recipients of *2011 Maynard K. Hine Medals*. The award, named after the first chancellor of IUPUI, honors alumni who have made significant contributions to the campus. The recipients were honored at the 2011 IUPUI Alumni Leadership Dinner, held on February 23, 2011.

### Awards

Professor **David Sabol**, of the Department of English and University College, won the inaugural *McGraw-Hill Excellence in Teaching First-Year Seminars Award* which recognizes outstanding contributions to the advancement of teaching first-year seminars. The national award was presented at the 2011 Annual Conference on The First-Year Experience during the plenary address on February 7, 2011.

### Facts & Figures

In December 2010, a record 114 Liberal Arts students graduated, more than doubling the December graduation rate of just five years ago.

### Research

**Una Osili**, Director of Research at the Center on Philanthropy and an associate professor of economics, was awarded \$270,000 from the Kresge Foundation for a project called, "Advancing Knowledge in Human Services Philanthropy and Nonprofit Organizations." This project will advance and disseminate new knowledge on human services philanthropy and nonprofits and develop a cohort of emerging scholars to meet the needs of human service agencies for translational research that enhances their impact.

### Grants and Contracts

The **Polis Center** recently received grants and contracts totaling \$637,500. The Indiana Department of Natural Resources contracted the Center for three hazard mitigation projects designed to demonstrate RiskMAP features in 11 counties in the Upper White River watershed and 8 counties in the Lower White River watershed. The **Spirit and Place Festival** was granted \$400,000 from the Lilly Endowment providing partial support for the 2011, 2012, and 2013 festivals.

### Civic Engagement

A new space for the **Spanish Resource Center (SRC)** will be inaugurated on March 8<sup>th</sup> in Cavanaugh Hall Room 205 at 3:30 pm. The event will feature a ribbon cutting and lecture by **Ambassador Javier Rupérez**, Consul General of Spain in Chicago. His talk, "Europeans and Americans: So Similar So Different," will be held at 4 pm in Room 405 of the IUPUI Campus Center. The Spanish Resource Center is a one-of-a-kind resource in the Midwest with a mission of improving the teaching of the Spanish language and culture. It is one of only 12 such centers across the country.

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