

The Spot - September 19

September 19, 2007

Free Bus Service, Hispanic Heritage Month, New Sculpture in Library

Duration

5:21

Transcript

[K. Christopher] Hi. This is September 19th edition of IUPUI's The Spot. I'm Kaitlyn Christopher. Are you tired of a long drive to school or fighting for a parking space once you finally get on campus? If so, there is good news! IUPUI and IndyGo have recently formed a partnership where students will be able to ride the city's bus system for free. It doesn't matter where you live in the city; the bus routes cover virtually all of Indianapolis. Effective this past Monday, students can pick up a pass at JagTag offices or Parking Services. Your pass in conjunction with your JagTag will allow you to ride for free. The Spot spoke with Dean of Students, Karen Whitney, about the partnership.

[K. Whitney] We have a great partnership we're launching this semester between IUPUI and IndyGo, where students using their student ID, their JagTag, with a bus pass can get on any IndyGo bus in the system and get to campus. It's just a great way to give students more choices on how they come to campus. If you have a car, you can bring it, or you know that you can always hop on IndyGo and get to campus. It's convenient, and it being supported by your student fees. You can pick up your bus pass at the Parking Services office or any JagTag offices. It's easy and it's quick, and it's one way IUPUI is working with IndyGo to serve us all better. One way that IndyGo's been partnering for several months now are the circulators downtown. In particular, there's the red circulator that's been coming to campus for several months now, and that's been proving to be widely successful. It takes students from across downtown into our campus and back and it circulates on a regular basis, stopping off at the hotel, and it's been used beyond what they imagined.

[K. Christopher] For bus routes and schedules see IndyGo's website. September 15th through October 15th is Hispanic Heritage Month, and IUPUI is staying busy with many cultural activities including festivals, film screenings, fiestas, and even Latino dance lessons. The Spot spoke with Amanda Bonilla, the President of the Latino Student Organization about what's going on.

[A. Bonilla] The Latino Student Association is just an organization on campus to promote Latino culture and provide awareness here on campus, and meet the needs of the Latinos. We do various events. Right now is Hispanic Heritage Month so we are putting on various events. We have a festival on Monday and it's just bringing different kinds of foods within the Latino community for people to taste. We're also having a Zoot Suit Riot Week where we're showing different films on the history of Latinos and the gangs. And we're having a fashion show that will show the Latino culture of the 1940's and the clothes they used to wear. We also have unity socials with the Black Student Union to promote diversity yet unity amongst the different student organizations and the minority cultures. And we do various volunteer work across the city of Indianapolis, whether it be translating, or tutoring, or just reaching out into the Latino community.

[K. Christopher] The search is on for people with a lot of Jags spirit who would like to represent IUPUI as Jawz the Jaguar at various campus, athletics, and community events throughout the year. If you are interested in applying, check out the website and fill out an online application. If you're in University Library this week, you'll notice a giant acrylic sculpture hovering over the atrium. Last spring, the library commissioned Herron student Jessica Burnside to construct a work of public art for the space. The piece, titled "Threat Level Orange," is a 24-foot long spider. Burnside was inspired by her fear of spiders and questions why she, like society, is afraid of things so small.

[J. Burnside] We had to make a model as one of our assignments and we were given the choice to make a model for a public project, either in the library space or a couple other spaces that we had to choose from, and I chose the interior space. I was interested in large-scale spiders because I'm rather scared of spiders, and it doesn't make sense to be scared of something so small, so I had the idea to make large-scale spiders that reflected my level of fear of them, so that's where that came from. The finished piece will be about 21 feet from the end of the legs to the bottom of the legs. It will be mostly polycarbonate, which is a lot like plexiglass, it just has a few different physical characteristics. And it will have aluminum rivets. I haven't worked out the final hinge pieces, so they'll either have polycarbonate or aluminum hinges. I'm really excited about it. It's given me a chance to do a lot of things I wouldn't have been able to do, and a lot of opportunities to push myself farther than I ever would have.

[K. Christopher] The IUPUI men's soccer team posted its first shutout of the season and got a first half goal to give them a 1-0 win over Western Michigan at Kuntz Stadium on Friday night. Junior, Dan Heidari scored the game-winning goal. The women's team also played Friday night but fell 3 to 0 to Northern Iowa.

That's the spot for this week. Check out the new episode starting each Wednesday on our podcast at jagtv.iupui.edu. See you later!