



SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS

INDIANA UNIVERSITY
IUPUI

FYI – MAY/JUNE 2011

Awards

Monroe Little, Associate Professor of History and long-time Director of the Africana Studies Program, was honored with the Center for Leadership (CLD) Development Directors Award. The CLD is a nonprofit organization which fosters the advancement of minority youth in Central Indiana as future professional, business, and community leaders. Little directed the Africana Studies Program for 31 years and was honored for his work in teaching, community service, and raising awareness of African-American history in Indiana.

Books

The 50th anniversary edition of Joseph Heller's *Catch-22* (Simon & Schuster) features more than 50 pages of historical and literary material prepared by **Jonathan Eller**, Professor of English and Senior Textual Editor of the Institute for American Thought in the IU School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI. Eller wrote the historical essay for this material and selected companion articles by major authors who were also early *Catch-22* fans, including Nelson Algren, Anthony Burgess, and Norman Mailer. Eller's section of the book also includes personal essays on the genesis of the novel by the author; manuscript pages and photos from the Joseph Heller archival collections at Brandeis University; and a selection of advertisements from the original publishing campaign.

Recognition

The Encyclopedia of Muslim-American History, edited by **Edward E. Curtis**, Millennium Chair of Liberal Arts and Professor of Religious Studies, and featuring contributions from 11 Liberal Arts students—has been recognized by several publications and organizations as one of the top reference books of 2010. *Library Journal*, *Booklist*, *Reference Reviews*, and the Society of School Librarians International all honored the book as an original and exceptional collection. The book examines Muslims' history, lifestyle, and contributions to America at a time when the religion and culture continue to be plagued by mistrust and misconceptions.

Engagement

After successfully serving a one-year term, **Carrie Foote**, Associate Professor of Sociology in the IU School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI, has been appointed by Kathleen Sebelius, secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, to serve an additional two years, for a full three year term (2010-2013), on the National Institutes of Health (NIH) advisory council. The Council serves an important role in setting scientific priorities, enhancing collaboration, and ensuring that research dollars are invested in the highest priority areas of scientific opportunity that will lead to new tools in the global fight against HIV/AIDS. This continued appointment is recognition of Foote's national leadership in the social scientific dimensions of HIV/AIDS.

Grants

The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) and the National Science Foundation (NSF) have awarded the **Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University** a \$100,000 grant to study trends in volunteering over time and what influences whether or not people volunteer.

Conferences

The Second Biennial Conference on Religion and American Culture was held June 2-5, 2011, at the new JW Marriott Hotel in downtown Indianapolis. Sponsored by the **Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture** and by *Religion and American Culture: A Journal of Interpretation*, the purpose of the biennial conference series is to combine the insights of those working from different perspectives to help create new and better understandings of religion's role in American life. The overarching theme of the conference was change—changing understandings of both religion and culture, as well as the effects these changes have on ways of thinking about religion's role in American culture.

Centers

Two new centers have been launched in the School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI.

- **The Center for Health Economics Research** will perform high-quality health economics research and disseminate the findings to address public policy and business concerns in Indiana and throughout the United States. It will create a new local role in linking IUPUI to the community through shared interests in health care and new research partnerships in collaboration with medical, business and government entities. It is directed by **Anne Royalty**, Associate Professor of Economics.
- **The Center for Global Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development** is an interdisciplinary research and community outreach center. Among its major objectives are to perform research on the political, economic, cultural, and social impacts of globalization, with particular emphasis on its manifestations in Africa and minority communities in the United States, and on non-traditional types of entrepreneurship. It is directed by **Bessie House-Soremekun**, Public Scholar in African-American Studies, Civic Engagement and Entrepreneurship, Professor of Political Science, and Professor of Africana Studies.

Engagement

Karen Kovacik, Professor of English and Director of Creative Writing, has been named the Indiana State Poet Laureate by the Indiana Arts Commission. Kovacik will begin her term in January 2012 and plans to create a literary blog about Indiana writers, a downloadable poetry-teaching toolkit to be distributed by the Indiana Humanities Council, and literary events around the state for schools and libraries.

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- Grants** Geography Professor **Jeffrey Wilson** and colleagues, Professor Cheryl Kelly with the School of Public Health at St. Louis University and Dr. Douglass Miller with the Regenstrief Institute and IU Center for Aging Research, have been awarded a research grant from the National Cancer Institute. They will study new methods for measuring characteristics of the built environment and their effects on physical activity behaviors of neighborhood residents.
- Students** During Spring 2011, Communication Studies majors **Emily Keck** and **Jake Monroe** helped Wellness Team, Inc. develop and launch its *Total Wellness Lifestyle Campaign*. Amongst the interns' accomplishments was content development for <http://indywellnessguide.com>, featuring information on health and guides to Indianapolis' health-related resources.
- Awards** **Richard Gunderman**, MD, PhD, Professor in Radiology, Pediatrics, Medicine, Philosophy, Liberal Arts, Philanthropy, and the Indiana University Honors College, has been named the recipient of the 2011 American Roentgen Ray Society/Leonard Berlin Medical Professionalism Award. The 2-year award recognizes personal professionalism and supports research and scholarship related to medical ethics, medicolegal principles, patient accountability, and sensitivity to patient diversity. It includes a grant of \$100,000.
- Students** Communication Studies graduate students **Rachel Davidson** and **Emily Deering** were recipients of the Best Themed Learning Community (TLC) Award at IUPUI's Annual Themed Learning Communities retreat. The pair were honored for their Fall 2010 TLC, "Writing Women Back Into (Her)Story: Making Connections Among Indiana Women."
- Grants** Economists **Una Osili** and **Ye Zhang** were awarded a \$147,704 grant for their project, "Causes of Generosity—Intergenerational and Community." The project was funded by the Notre Dame Science of Generosity Project and was one of 13 applications to receive funding from over 300 submissions from top scholars from various disciplines and around the world.
- Books** **Ulla Connor**, Professor of English, Zimmer Chair in Intercultural Communication, and Director of the Indiana Center for Intercultural Communication, has published *Intercultural Rhetoric in the Writing Classroom* (University of Michigan Press). The book looks at "how a culturally contextualized study of rhetoric in any media can be carried out without static and reductive over-generalizations about culture/s or rhetoric."
- Conferences** **The Museum Studies Program** and the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art co-hosted an international Inter-Congress of the World Archaeological Congress (WAC) on June 22-25, 2011. Many Indigenous people such as American Indians and Australian Aborigines believe their peoples are poorly represented in museum exhibits and programs. The Inter-Congress, titled, "Indigenous People and Museums: Unraveling the Tensions," focused on this problem and on improving partnerships between museums and Indigenous peoples.
- Recognition** Several Liberal Arts faculty members with Women's Studies Program appointments were recognized at the Chancellor's Academic Honors Convocation for their work. **Jennifer Thorington Springer**, Associate Professor of English, received The Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Multicultural Teaching. **Susan Hyatt**, Associate Professor of Anthropology, was honored with the Indiana Campus Compact's Brian Douglas Hiltunen Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Scholarship of Engagement. **Ulla Connor**, Professor of English and Zimmer Chair in Intercultural Communication, was named Chancellor's Professor, and Trustees Teaching Awards went to Professors **Catherine Dobris** (Communication Studies), **Elizabeth Goering** (Communication Studies) and **Karen Kovacic** (English). Finally, the Chancellor's Scholar Award for doctoral programs went to **Ankita Deka** who earned a PhD in Social Work with a minor in Women's Studies.
- Conferences** **Owen Dwyer**, Associate Professor of Geography, led the 2011 LEarNing Spatially (LENS): Infusing Spatial Thinking into Undergraduate Education Summer Institute hosted by the University of Redlands in California. The Institute took place May 31-June 3. During the event, participants discussed questions related to migration such as "what factors facilitate or encourage movements, and what factors inhibit or disable flow?" and how to use digital mapping and representations in the classroom. The Institute also acted as a faculty development workshop on using cartography to better understand migration issues.