













## IU SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS

## **FYI - OCTOBER 2008**

Faculty

Jan Shipps, Professor Emerita of History and Religious Studies, has been awarded an Emeritus Fellowship from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. According to the Foundation, "Emeritus Fellowships are intended to support the scholarly activities of outstanding faculty members in the humanities and humanistic social sciences who, at the time of taking up the fellowships, will be officially retired but continue to be active and productive in their fields." The Fellowship will support Shipps' current project, a book tentatively titled *Being Mormon: The Latter-day Saints since World War II*.

Students

This fall, the School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI welcomed the first cohort of students to the **Olaniyan Scholars Program** in the African American and African Diaspora Studies (AAADS) program. The seven students are pursuing various academic majors, however, all will engage in courses, research, and community projects focusing on the experiences of African Americans and other descendents of Africans dispersed around the globe. Visit <a href="http://www.iupui.edu/olaniyan">http://www.iupui.edu/olaniyan</a> to learn more. The first Olaniyan Scholars are:

- Amanda K. Harris, biology
- Lena S. Jones, sociology
- Patricia A. Jordan, political science,
- Precious D. Little, psychology or business
- Christian D. Mundy, pre-dental hygiene
- Jamie A. Rhodman, public affairs
- Tyra L. Whitson, nursing

Service

On October 3rd, the Department of World Languages and Cultures hosted the annual **Mapping Education Toward Achievement (META): Hispanic Post-secondary Seminar.** The event, held in conjunction with the Indiana Department of Education and several other organizations, brought 314 Hispanic students from 18 Central Indiana high schools to IUPUI for a day of college and career planning sessions.

Research

What did early Protestant Christians believe when they heard the minister proclaim, "This is my body"? Once said, the minister would then break bread, bless wine, and distribute the elements to those present. *This is My Body: The Presence of Christ in Reformation Thought* (Baker Academic, 2008) by **Thomas J. Davis**, Professor of Religious Studies, traces the various levels of signification attributed to the proclamation "This is my body," looking not only at the teachings of these early Protestants but also contextualizing their arguments in the broader shifts in the use of language of the era.

**Events** 

On November 10, 2008, the Department of Political Science welcomes national political pundits and local party leaders to IUPUI for a discussion on "Gender, Race and Religion in the 2008 Elections" at the Eighth Bulen Symposium on American Politics. Since 1998, the Bulen Symposium has been one of the nation's premier forums for discussion of America's political parties and other issues relating to our political system. The symposium, named in memory of party activist and local leader L. Keith Bulen, takes place every other year following national elections. For more information visit <a href="https://liberalarts.iupui.edu">http://liberalarts.iupui.edu</a>

**Events** 

An award-winning film and television producer and director, an internationally recognized author and national religious leader, and a Hispanic author focused on the interaction of cultures in American life will highlight the thirteenth annual **Spirit & Place Festival** beginning Saturday, November 1, and lasting through Sunday, November 16. Celebrating its 13th year, the 16-day civic celebration will engage more than 25,000 people with more than 55 programs presented by more than 100 organizations throughout Central Indiana. More information on this Polis Center managed event: <a href="http://www.spiritandplace.org">http://www.spiritandplace.org</a>.

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