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## January/February 2014 Highlights



2013 Bowling-Jones-Russo Memorial Undergraduate Research Award recipient Quratul-Ann "Anna" Mirza.

### Call for 2014 Awards Nominations

The Center for Research and Learning is currently accepting nominations for the 2014 Bowling-Jones-Russo Memorial Undergraduate Research Award, the IUPUI Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Research and the Kathryn J. Wilson Award for Outstanding Leadership and Mentoring of Undergraduate Research. These awards honor undergraduate research and mentoring on campus. All awards include a monetary gift to be given at the ceremony.

» [For more details on awards nominations](#)



Engineering and Technology major Jose Miranda discussing his abstract at Research Day.

### IUPUI Research Day

The Center for Research and Learning in partnership with the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research invites all IUPUI and IUPUC undergraduate students to submit an abstract for the 2014 IUPUI Research Day on Friday, April 11, 2014, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**CRL Scholars, submit your abstract according to your program's instructions by February 24, 2014.**

- » [For the abstract formatting guidelines](#)
- » [For poster templates](#)
- » [For poster-design aids](#)
- » [For submission guidelines](#)
- » [For general information on IUPUI Research Day](#)



During last year's summer program orientation Dr. Sherry Queener speaks to students about working with mentors.

### CRL Summer Program Applications Are Open!

Applications are being accepted now for the Center for Research and Learning's 2014 summer cohort! The deadline for applications is March 1, 2014. CRL program benefits include:

- Earn competitive compensation\*
- Participate in mentored research projects
- Participate in team and thematic research
- Engage with distinguished faculty mentors
- Participate in scholarly symposia and poster sessions
- Enhance career and professional development
- Prepare for graduate and professional programs

\*Depending on the program, compensation may be stipend or pay. Please visit the website for more details.

» [For more information about our CRL programs](#)



The National Conferences on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) will be held at the University of Kentucky.

## The National Conferences on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) 2014 accepts IUPUI students

Undergraduate students from IUPUI were selected to travel to Lexington, Kentucky, April 3-5, 2014, to present their research projects at the National Conferences on Undergraduate Research (NCUR). This annual meeting attracts over 3,000 undergraduate students from across the country and is considered the premier event of its kind. Participants are selected through a rigorous faculty review process. Eleven of the students were sponsored by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and the Center for Research and Learning (CRL) as these students are participants in programs affiliated with the CRL, including the Diversity Scholars Research Program, The Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program, and the Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation program.

» [For more on NCUR 2014](#)



The Ideas Solving Social and Economic Challenges (ISSEC) is a competition to reward IUPUI students for their innovative ideas to solve social and economic challenges facing the nation and the world.

## ISSEC 3rd Annual IUPUI Student-Idea Pitch Competition

Thursday, March 6, 2014, 3:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., at the IUPUI Campus Center Theater (420 University Blvd., Indianapolis, IN 46202).

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – EVERYONE IS INVITED!  
PRIZES AWARDED FOR THE BEST "ELEVATOR PITCH!"

1st PLACE: \$2,500.00  
2nd PLACE: \$1,500.00  
3rd PLACE: \$500.00

Audience Choice Award: \$1,000. Join us to watch the live competition and vote for your favorite team!

REGISTER TO BE PART OF THE AUDIENCE:  
<https://crm.iu.edu/CRMEvents/ISSECCompetition/>

» [More information on ISSEC](#)



Student on a Mission! Bridges to the Baccalaureate scholar L'eCelia Hall

## Student Spotlight: L'eCelia Hall

Bridges to the Baccalaureate scholar L'eCelia Hall, 31, observes, "To set yourself apart as a nontraditional student, you must work harder." She has garnered multiple distinctions, including American Honors—the new Honors College of Ivy Tech Community College—and membership in Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. Also a Nina Mason Pulliam Legacy scholar, she graduates from Ivy Tech in May with her Associate in Science. Inspired by Dr. Michael M. Baden of HBO's documentary series *Autopsy* and by personally witnessing such a procedure as a health-magnet high-school freshman, she decided to pursue a career in science. For ten years, she was a self-taught information-technology analyst. Then, at 28, L'eCelia decided she still *really* wanted to become a doctor. "It was a calling. I came back on a mission."

Upon learning of Bridges, a program of CRL in consortium with Ivy Tech geared toward helping underrepresented students to bridge from community college to a four-year science degree, L'eCelia saw, "This was the perfect opportunity!" She started the program in March 2013 with a research-ethics class and that June began working daily in the laboratory under the guidance of Dr. Ann Kimble-Hill, a postdoctoral fellow in the IU School of Medicine Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Of her mentor, she affirms, "She is amazing! Such an inspiration, so supportive. She is *definitely* a role model!" L'eCelia's research addresses the proliferation of cancer cells in mammary tissues. Angiotenin p80 isoform

(AMOT 80 protein), naturally occurring in the body, causes the accumulation of yes-associated protein (YAP) in cells. The AMOT Coiled-Coil Homology (ACCH) domain is how the protein binds to the cell. Endeavoring to reduce its binding, she currently focuses on the greater affinity for AMOT 80 to bind in the presence of cholesterol.

L'eCelia Hall's goal is to earn her M.D. before age forty and to become a forensic pathologist in a large metropolitan area. "It seems so adventurous: Solving crimes and helping people. Forensic pathology," she explains, "involves criminal investigations [in concert with] government or private agencies, autopsies, toxicology, entomology and a general knowledge of psychology and sociology. Forensic pathologists testify in court," she continues; hence, it helps to have, "a personality that will make people hang onto your words."



Dr. Ann Kimble-Hill is committed to "giving back" by mentoring undergraduate researchers in cancer research

## Faculty Spotlight: Ann Kimble-Hill, Ph.D.

Ann Kimble-Hill, a postdoctoral fellow in the Thomas D. Hurley Laboratory of the IU School of Medicine Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, arrived at breast-cancer research via a novel route. Holding a B.S.E. in chemical engineering from the University of Michigan and an M.Eng. with foci in chemical engineering and project engineering from the University of Illinois-Chicago, she earned a Ph.D. in biological and physical chemistry from IUPUI in 2008. Recipient of an NIH K01 award and principal investigator of her own grant, Dr. Kimble-Hill uses classical physics and engineering studies in thermodynamics and kinetics to understand biological-signaling cascades and cell-membrane events, which she points out approaches being translational. Of her colleagues, she states, "They're immediately taking the things I think are important and putting them into a cell to see if it can manipulate the functional characteristics of proteins involved in cancerous events like angiominin in mammary cells."

Having had a dear aunt to fight and succumb to breast cancer, she has known since high school that she wanted to do cancer research, thus she says, "I was already passionate; it was just a matter of finding the road to get me to it." Engineering gave her the needed skill set. As a graduate student, she was an Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) scholar, a Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAAN) fellow, a half-time chemistry teaching fellow, and a half-time research assistant, while in turn mentoring an Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) student. Originally from the South Side of Chicago, Dr. Kimble-Hill, who currently mentors several undergraduate and high-school students, observes, "I can relate to a lot of students here who are not necessarily from privileged areas...When I was in high school and grammar school, I had people that took chances on me and gave me opportunities, so I try to give back." She explains, "You have to push them the same way I was pushed. That's fundamental to me, just as important as the science."

"Once undergraduates really get engrossed in what they're doing, they really get involved. For some it is their first job ever. You do spend a lot of time hands-on with them, but it is allowing me to do multiple things." She continues, "I like seeing when they light up...when they see it really is related to things, how the classroom connects to the real world."



## CRL Joins Social Media

To keep in touch with our undergraduate-research "family"—this includes anyone receiving this newsletter and more—we have taken to social media! With the Center for Research and Learning (CRL) social-media accounts, you will have access to our most current information about CRL programming, special events and research-related topics.

If you currently do not have a social-media account we encourage you to create one, which benefits you in establishing your brand. Future employers

Let's stay connected!

are able to view your published scholarly work, or they may even discover your passionate blogs about research. Establishing your brand opens many doors for networking and employment opportunities. Please friend or like us on any of the following CRL social-media accounts:

