



SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS

INDIANA UNIVERSITY
IUPUI

FYI – APRIL 2010

Civic Engagement

Five Liberal Arts student received William M. Plater Civic Engagement Medallions at the 6th Annual Showcase of Civic Engagement organized by the IUPUI Center for Service & Learning. **Chad Bracken** (History), **John Burkhardt** (Communication Studies), **Molly Dagon** (Anthropology), **Whitney Grout** (English), and **Whitney Mansfield** (Sociology) were recognized for depth and diversity of commitment in serving their communities. In addition to these student achievements, faculty member **Francia Kissel** (English) and staff member **Shannon Kelley** (Office of Student Affairs) were also recognized for a Themed Learning Community (TLC) which used service learning to deepen civic learning. Additionally, Faculty Community Fellows **Enrica Ardemagni** (World Language and Cultures) and **Marci Littlefield** (Sociology), who was also recognized as a Boyer Scholar, were also recognized at the event.

Books

Philip Goff, Professor of Religious Studies and Director of the Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture, is the editor of *The Blackwell Companion to Religion in America* (2010). Comprised of more than forty essays, Goff's book sheds light on the history of American religion within evolving social and political frameworks. The volume spans multiple religious traditions and addresses them against the backdrop of the media and social reform.

Research

This semester, students in the Ethnographic Methods Research course taught by Anthropology Professor **Susan B. Hyatt**, conducted a community research project, interviewing African American and Sephardic Jewish community members who once lived side-by-side in a neighborhood on Indianapolis' near Southside. The students recorded the interviews and scanned photographs and other memorabilia; the final product will be a document preserving the neighborhood's history.

International

Communication Studies Professor **John Parrish-Sprowl** has been invited to partner with the European Center for Disease Prevention and Control (similar to the American CDC) in its global health communication work. Focusing on communicable diseases, Parrish-Sprowl will share resources, collaborate on research, and participate in expert panels for the organization. Parrish-Sprowl is also Director of our Center for Global Health Communication, part of the Institute for Research on Social Issues

Events

The 2010 School of Liberal Arts Commencement speaker will be **Rob Smith**, President of the Eli Lilly and Company Foundation, which donated \$30 million last year to charitable causes in Indiana and around the world. Smith also serves as senior director of corporate responsibility and community relations at Lilly and is accountable for corporate branding and employee volunteer programs. The Liberal Arts Commencement ceremony follows the main ceremony and takes place on Sunday, May 9, 2010, at the Indianapolis Convention Center in the 500 Ballroom at 5:00 p.m.

Research

David C. Bell, Professor of Sociology, is the author of *The Dynamics of Connection: How Evolution and Biology Create Caregiving and Attachment* (Lexington Books, 2010). In the book, Bell builds on the foundation of attachment theory, bringing together new insights from neurology and evolutionary biology to deepen our understanding of caregiving and attachment.

Teaching

Two School of Liberal Arts faculty members have been selected as 2010 members of the Faculty Colloquium on Excellence in Teaching (FACET). **Jennifer Thorington Springer**, Assistant Professor of English, and **Elizabeth Wood**, Assistant Professor of Museum Studies and Teacher Education, join a distinguished group of IU faculty members who have been chosen annually since FACET began in 1989. FACET awards are presented to those who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to teaching and learning through areas of self-evaluation, course preparation, research, instructional skills and student impact.

Awards

Tim Brothers, Associate Professor of Geography, has received a Fulbright Scholar award for research and teaching in the Dominican Republic during Spring Semester 2011.

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