

Senior Sentinel

NEWS of the
IUPUI SENIOR ACADEMY
March 2007

19 IUPUI 'Signature Centers' Receive \$7 Million in Funding

Nineteen IUPUI "Signature Centers," are "intended to take IUPUI's research effort to a much higher level," according to **Uday Sukhatme**, executive vice chancellor. They "will stand out like skyscrapers over the surrounding landscape," Sukhatme said.

The Signature Center initiative is designed to provide approximately \$7 million of flexible money over the next three years (equally shared between the central administration and the academic units), he said.

A signature center is a unique, interdisciplinary and urban research unit distinctly identifiable with IUPUI. In addition to representing an area of research strength, the centers will usually build on some on-going activities.

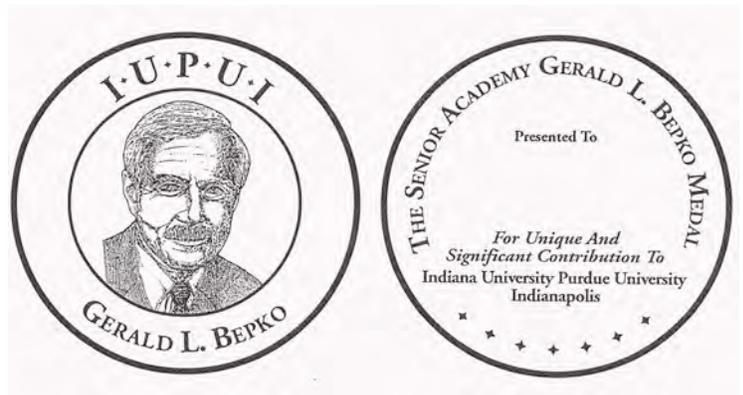
Of 71 proposals submitted, those came from Medicine, 21; Science, Engineering, 8 each; Liberal Arts, 7; Art, Dentistry, Informatics, Law, 3 each; Public and Environmental Affairs, Social Work, 2 each; Music, Nursing, Health and Rehabilitation Services, Education, University Library, University College, Business, 1 each. Non-teaching units contributed 4 proposals.

A second round of funding for Signature Centers is anticipated next year.

The 19 proposals funded in the first round are:
Center for Assessing, Understanding and Managing Pain;
Center for Regenerative Biology and Medicine;
Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture;
Center for Water Resources;
Cellular Therapy, Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant Center;

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2nd Bepko Medallion to be Awarded

The second Bepko Medallion, issued to a person who has strengthened the bonds between IUPUI and the community, as exemplified by former Chancellor **Gerald L. Bepko**, will be awarded by the Academy on May 17.

That is the annual meeting of the Academy. According to **Don Schultheis**, chair of the Bepko Medallion Committee, the recipient will be announced at that time.

Chancellor Bepko received the first one in 2003.

The medallion, a 3-inch metallic photocast, has the image of Bepko on one side and the recipient's name, date and citation on the other side. It is designed to stand on a desk standard.

The medallion is slated to be an annual honor bestowed by the Academy.



Uday Sukhatme

**New Goals
for IUPUI
Listed by
Sukhatme**

New Vice Chancellor and Dean of Faculties **Uday Sukhatme** outlined three new thrusts for IUPUI at the Academy Board at its March meeting.

He announced a new faculty lecture series, aimed at the community, was initiated in March and continues through April. He will seek retired faculty to be part of future series.

He announced another outreach program for extending degree programs to all parts of the city at newly established centers. He announced that the new signature centers for broadening research can include retired faculty as part of developing their programs.

The "Cutting Edge" lecture series will have five presentations each semester, to introduce people to

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IUPUI Senior Academy: Administration Building, 355 N. Lansing St., Indianapolis 46202

Events Include Stutz Building, Medicare Rx Program

Not enough people were able to sign up for the trip to Lincoln's heritage site in Springfield, IL, so **Ron Frank** of the Social Committee has arranged a substitute, a tour of the somewhat mysterious Stutz Business Center in the city.

The Stutz complex is home to artists and small businesses. Details will be announced later for the **May 2** tour.

A forum is being organized by **Ed Robbins** where members can network and exchange experiences with personal and similar issues such as long term insurance, trips, financial questions, etc.

This is occasioned by the **April 17** Medicare Rx plan meeting where five Senior Academy members will give their experiences with different drug plans. It will be at 10 a.m. at the Glendale Library Auditorium (enter the west side of the Mall during the extensive construction).

Another program that should get in calendars is **April 4**, Tour of the Chateau Thomas Winery in Plainfield, for wine tasting, lunch, and possible shopping at the Metropolis Shopping Center. Cost is \$16 per person, reservations and checks to Carolyn Tungate, 2222 Heartland Dr., Brownsburg.

Bylaws Revised Again

A 13th revision of the IUPUI Senior Academy Bylaws as been presented for review and will be adopted at the April 11 meeting of the Academy Board. The Academy began in 1994 and the bylaw revisions are due to the changing nature of Academy life.

Bernice Hopp and **Carl Rothe**, members of the bylaws committee, presented a new document which, among other items, outlines and clarifies terms of office and a new procedure for nominating board members.

Members who wish to see a copy, and comment on it, may obtain a copy by contacting the Academy office, 278-2444.

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Senior Academy Leadership

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Berniece Hopp (Sec.)	jjhandbbh@sbcglobal.net	Allied Health 356-7820
Victor Childers (Treas.)	vchilder@iupui.edu	Business 283-8857
Don Schultheis (Past Pres)	dschulth@iupui.edu	Liberal Arts 582-1710
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Senior Academy Office, 317-278-2444 Dottie Swinney 244-8018

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Judy Silence, Webpage Editor; Noel Duerden, Sentinel Editor

New Signature Centers for IUPUI Funded at \$7M

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Center for Family Violence Prevention, Education and Research;
 Randall L. Tobias Center for Leadership Excellence;
 Renewable Energy Center;
 Service Learning Research Collaborative;
 PREGMED: Pharmacogenetics and Therapeutics Research;
 Center for Advanced Studies in Hearing, Perception and Language;
 Institute for Research on Social Issues;
 Binational/Cross-Cultural Health Enhancement Center;
 Center for Cancer, Genetics and the Environment;
 Tobacco Cessation and Biobehavioral Center;
 IUPUI Center for Mathematical Biosciences;
 Center for Computational Diagnostics;
 Consortium for Health Policy, Law, Bioethics;
 Center for Excellence in Bio-Computing

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Clarke Miller



A New Look at Dying with Dignity

It is possible that most Academy members were home planning their last few years, or avoiding cold, rather than being among the 10 who heard about the “right to die well...the ultimate civil right.”

The presentation by **Clarke Miller** on end of life issues on Jan 30 may have changed some minds about enhancing death to avoid long periods of pain and suffering.

Miller said he changed his mind about choosing death over living horribly came when he was a nursing home administrator. One lady took her own life by slashing her wrists because she could no longer endure constant pain of lung cancer. In her case, and many others, “death is a friend.” He said that in interviewing patients in nursing homes, most feel pain is torture and “I want to die,” is often heard.

While there are several choices on choosing when to die by the terminally ill, he said his group, the Compassion and Choices Society, advocates that a living will be in force for every person, having a health care power of attorney. The group has a model letter to physicians outlining patient wishes. In Indiana, doctors can overrule a living will, under the assumption that we can’t force doctors how to practice medicine. Doctors, he said, “are fighters and do so with marvelous machines and medicines.”

Miller said that Indiana is a long way from Oregon’s example in regulating death by choice issues because of the conservative nature of this state—legislators won’t touch the issue. Oregon is the only state that protects and highly regulates those who choose how and when they die. It is similar to only Belgium, Holland and Switzerland among all nations of the earth. However, he said, other states and other countries are leaning in this direction.

Miller added that about 98 percent of pain in older years can be relieved, his group, Compassion and Choice, thinks only about two percent of the population would be affected by what he called dying by “dissolv-

ing and disintegration.”

The right to die issue is static because “people don’t want to think of it.” Yet he said that polls show a 2-1 edge in favor of right to die well voiced by physicians and the public.

Instructing the small Academy group, he showed that there are three options in these procedures: passive euthanasia where patients as kept comfortable until death comes; active euthanasia, where Dr. Kevorkian-types assist with medicines to enhance death, and non-medical means where food and drink are withheld.

Oposing the death-by-choice advocates are those who claim that it is suicide, which is against legal and moral conventions; that we are “playing God;” and that it will lead to abuses.

The Compassion and Choices group insists that physician assisted death is really shortening the inevitable and relieving suffering, the same way we put injured or terminally ill animals out of their misery and humans deserve dignity in avoiding lingering pain. It is only for the terminally ill and those with extreme pains.

Academy to Present Itself on March 30

A major recruiting effort by the Academy will be conducted on March 30 at the annual Human Resources faculty and staff retirement recognition event

The Academy has previously invited prospective members to join by a single invitation and by awarding a free one-year membership. Retires now will be personally invited.

The effort will coincide with a survey of members by schools to see which are represented. This will likely affect how nominations are made so that balanced representation is made of board members, President Jim East told the board.

Board Changes; 2 New Members

Resignations for health and personal reasons caused a change in the Academy Board. Jeanette Rowe and Evelyn Payne submitted resignations, received with regret, and the board appointed **Joseph Hingtgen** (Medicine) and **Noel Duerden** (Administration) to replace them.

Academy's Annual Meeting May 17 at Skyline Club

Details are being arranged for the annual meeting. It will be held at the Skyline Club on Thursday, May 17. Parking will be free. Particulars will be mailed to members and be listed on the webpage of the Senior Academy.

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Our Outstanding Characteristic

Compared with other organizations like the Senior Academy, what would you say is our most distinctive characteristic? I think I know.

After I became President, I heard an animated exchange about this characteristic. I have heard such exchanges since. So, what was the subject?

The following sentence contains the answer. The Senior Academy was established as "an independent association of ... retired faculty and staff...." Notice it is for both retired faculty and staff, not just faculty nor just staff. That's a distinctive characteristic.

There has always been a great deal of pride by members in this organization of faculty and staff. Several staff members have been president. Both serve on the Board of Directors and chair committees.

Recently, an officer of the IU Foundation proposed that the Senior Academy have an annual event here for retiring faculty (no staff) to glorify their life's work. This type of event is on the Bloomington campus—for faculty only. The Academy Board dismissed the idea outright.

In a comment to the Academy Board, IUPUI's new Dean of Faculties (6 months) said something about the Senior Academy being a faculty organization. It was not intentional, however, after the Dean left, several people objected to the oversight.

Another example: in a draft of proposed bylaws changes, a statement was "faculty and professional staff." Everybody agreed that it is an organization of faculty and staff.

So, if you want a tongue lashing, don't say that the Academy is just for faculty. The reason for this protective nature, I think, is the very close partnership of faculty and staff in the early development of IUPUI. Everybody worked together as a team. We did not think of a pecking order. We took pride in working together. So, now in later years we continue working closely together in support of the Senior Academy and the University. Everybody benefits. --**Jim East, President**



Sukhatme Lists Goals

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innovative concepts and current research interests from leading professors.

The new centers, one already open at the Jewish Community Center and one planned for Greenwood, are in cooperation with Ivy Tech to help students gain undergraduate degrees close to home. President Jim East made a pitch for re-establishing the Glendale Center which he called very successful. He offered to help IUPUI with his previous experience in off-campus learning.

The Signature Centers are explained in an accompanying story in The Sentinel.

Sukhatme also said a major campaign will begin next year. It is necessary, he said, because "there are a lot of things we can do ourselves" referring to questions some have over relationships between IUB and IUPUI with the new IU President.

Last Issue of Sentinel Until Fall

The Academy Board has scheduled three issues of the Sentinel each academic year. Get updated information on the Academy webpage.

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