



INDIANA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS AT IUPUI

FYI - February 2015

Events

The 26th Annual **Joseph T. Taylor Symposium** took place February 17, 2015, and focused on the theme "Encountering Religions Through Performance." Attendees explored Indianapolis's religious diversity and were provided opportunities to witness and discuss religion's performative aspects through a series of panels and a luncheon performance from the Sancocho Music and Dance Collage. During the event, Kathleen Surina grove, JD (Director of the IUPUI Office for Women) and Simon J. Rhodes, Ph.D (Dean of the School of Science at IUPUI) were honored for their commitment to diversity.

Publications

William J. Jackson, Professor Emeritus of Religious Studies, has published a new book titled "American Tricksters: Thoughts on the Shadow Side of a Culture's Psyche" that features a forward by **Peter Thuesen**, Chair and Professor of Religious Studies. The book explores the archetype of the mythological trickster and also newer versions of such as rock stars who break taboos, heroes who overcome monstrous circumstances, crafty folk who overcome odds to survive and thrive. To explore the ways and means of trickster maneuvers can alert us to pitfalls, help us appreciate tricks that are entertaining, and aid us in fending off ploys which drain our resources and ruin our lives. Knowing more about the Trickster archetype in our psyches helps us be more self-aware.

Events

Ray Bradbury, one of the best known science-fiction and fantasy writers of our time, will be the focus of a special four-day film series at IU Cinema on Indiana University's Bloomington campus running from March 24-28. "Ray Bradbury: From Science to the Supernatural" is intended as an exploration and celebration of his works on screen. The series, which includes lectures and panel discussions, was programmed by the **Center for Ray Bradbury Studies**. Tickets can be obtained at the IU Auditorium box office from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday; or by phone at 812-855-1103 for a \$10 service fee per order. If seats remain, tickets also will be available in the IU Cinema lobby 60 minutes before each screening.

Research

Devon J. Hensel, professor of Sociology, was part of first-of-its-kind research that found teenage girls use different parts of their brain when making hypothetical low- and high-risk decisions about sex. In a pilot study reported Jan. 13 in the Journal of Adolescent Health. Hensel and research partner Tom Hummer, Ph.D., analyzed the brain activity and self-reported behaviors of 14- and 15-year-old girls using a functional magnetic resonance image and 30 days of daily diary reports. This is the first study to use functional MRI to link brain activity in mid-adolescent-aged females to their sexual decisions. The researchers found that teenaged girls spend less time making decisions about participating in risky behavior than they do when evaluating low-risk activities. They also determined that an area of the brain involved with controlling impulses and emotion is more engaged with high-risk sexual decision-making than with other high-risk decisions.

Awards

Rosa Tezanos Pinto, Associate Professor of Spanish and Director of Latino Studies, swept all the awards at the 2014 Indiana Foreign Language Teachers' Association Conference. Tezanos Pinto was selected as Indiana Teacher of the Year (Collegiate Level) and Overall Indiana Teacher of the Year (all levels) to represent the state of Indiana at the Central States Teacher of the Year competition. She was also selected Teacher of the Year by the Indiana Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese.

Research

Pamela Laucella, Department of Journalism and PR, recently contributed a chapter about the evolution of sports journalism to "The Routledge Handbook of Sport and New Media," a leading textbook for sports journalism students. She was also responsible for the **National Sports Journalism Center** 2014 Hiring Card Report that assesses how major colleges and universities take diversity into account when hiring men's basketball coaches.

Students

The **Communication Studies Department** is preparing their first theatre production in over 20 years. On April 17-19, 2015, IUPUI students will perform "All in the Timing," a comedy written by David Ives and directed by Callie Burk. "All in the Timing" consists of six one-act comedies that will send you on a journey through different time zones, possibly teach you a new language and show you how our world would be with a reset button. Performances are free but seats must be reserved.

Awards

Sandra Petronio (Communication Studies) won the 2015 Western States Communication Association Distinguished Scholar Award. Created in 2008, the award recognizes "members who have made sustained contributions to the study of human communication and have influenced the way scholars and students think about the nature, function and scope of communication."



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Honors

John McCormick's (Political Science) book "Why Europe Matters" has been chosen as one of the Choice Outstanding Academic Titles of the Year for 2014. Each January, Choice publishes their list of the best books reviewed throughout the previous year, paring approximately 7,000 books down to the best 10 percent. Selections are based on reviewer's evaluation of the work, the editor's knowledge of the field, and the reviewer's record.

Awards

IUPUI American Indian Programs director, **Charmayne Champion-Shaw** (Cheyenne), accepted an award from the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) in Anchorage, Alaska at the National NIEA Conference for the newly created Native American & Indigenous Studies (NAIS) minor. The NAIS minor is the first of its kind in Indiana and is a 12-credit Liberal Arts program which complements any major and can benefit those who are going to be working in any field sensitive to cultural context. In addition, IUPUI American Indian Programs was recognized for the tremendous work that is being done in Indiana to forward Native education initiatives.

Awards

"Praying Drunk," the short story collection by **Kyle Minor** (Assistant Professor of English) was chosen the winner the Story Prize Spotlight Award, by former O. Henry Prize Stories editor Larry Dark and Julie Lindsey. The prize will be awarded at a ceremony in New York, at the New School Auditorium, on March 4. "Praying Drunk" was also named to year end lists of the best books of 2014 by Amazon.com, Flavorwire, and the Minneapolis Star Tribune.

Events

The Spring 2015 **Rufus & Louise Reiberg Reading Series** is underway with upcoming events and readings such as the 6th annual "International Women's Day: A Celebration" (March 12, 6:30 pm), essayist and fiction writer Michelle Herman (April 2, 7:30 pm), and Dana Roeser, the author of three books of poetry (April 16, 7:30 pm). All readings are free and open to the public. Readings take place in the University Library's Lilly Auditorium.

Awards

Genevieve Shaker, associate dean for development and external affairs, was named to the Indianapolis Business Journal's Class of 2015 Forty under 40. The list recognizes individuals not only for their early professional success, but also for their accomplishments in the greater Indianapolis community and the likelihood they will remain Indianapolis residents and build on those achievements. Her IBJ profile cites Shaker's "successful conclusion of the School of Liberal Arts' seven-year, \$18 million campaign, earning an award from the Association of Fundraising Professionals in the process." The Association of Fundraising Professionals named Shaker as the recipient of the organization's 2015 Emerging Scholar Award. The award honors an early-career scholar or scholar-practitioner whose research has and will continue to shape the discourse on philanthropy and fundraising.

Research

The **Liberal Arts Sabbatical Series** continues with presentations from professors on their research projects. The lectures take place from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. in Room 268 of the IUPUI Campus Center. Upcoming lectures include **Jane E. Schultz** (March 10), "Lead, Blood and Ink: Surgeons, Life Writing and Medical Status in the American Civil War," **Cornelis de Waal**, (March 27), "Math, Fiction and the World: On the Unreasonable Effectiveness of Mathematics," and **Owen Dwyer** (March 31), "Placemaking Along the Indianapolis Cultural Trail."

Students

Sports journalism master's student and men's basketball player **Khufu Najee** is among an elite class of 30 college basketball seniors who have been nominated for the Senior CLASS Award. The award honors seniors who are total student-athletes and "encourages students to use their platform in athletics to make a positive impact as leaders in their communities." The finalist will be announced at the 2015 NCAA Men's Basketball Final Four.

Students

The Departments of **Anthropology** and Earth Sciences and the Indiana Geological Survey and Department of Geological Sciences at IU-B will offer the third year of a National Science Foundation Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program titled "Multidisciplinary Training for Students in Environmental and Social Sciences through Archaeological Research." The program runs from June 1st to July 31st, 2015 and gives students the opportunity to examine an archaeological site at a Mississippian-era (AD 1050-1450) village located in the central Illinois River valley. The project's goal is to foster a new generation of scholars that can work across disciplinary boundaries to craft meaningful and empirically-sound interpretations about research questions that transcend the social, natural and behavioral sciences.

Events

The **Department of Communications Studies** will present Communication Week March 23-28. The event will feature student work showcases, an advising open house, and conclude with the 5th Annual Student, Alumni, and Employer Networking Conference.

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