

Academy Board: Let's Raise \$25,000 for Campus Center

See Details in
President's Column, p. 4

UW Contributions Down, But...

Academy members are falling a little behind last year but still 40 members have contributed to the campus United Way campaign, according to **Dottie Swinney** in a report to the Senior Academy Board in November.

Those contributing so far have given \$17,079, for an average of \$426.97. Last year our members led the campus in per capita giving and we had 67 members giving about \$26,000.

Dottie said the campaign continues. Some members may have given through their academic or service units or to United Way directly.

Art in Public Places: Herron Does It

The Center for Art and Design in Public Life takes Herron into the community. You've seen an example at Consecro Fieldhouse that depicts high points in the Indiana Pacers presence in the city. Another was Art in Trees, a temporary exhibit of sculpture in Military Park.

The center works with businesses and individuals, which they call clients, for civic engagement. The clients come with ideas about what they want depicted, and teams of Herron students and faculty develop visual art. It may be print materials as well as sculpture, paintings or other media.

An unusual assignment is the Election Project that is engaging students to "redesign the voting experience". After studying how the voting is perceived, the artists are trying to visually make it a better experience.

The Center coordinates with other IUPUI departments. It also develops the galleries and lecture series for Herron.

Herron Tour Impresses Academy Members

Some 47 Academy members came away from a tour of the new Herron School of Art and Design impressed with the diversity of the art school as well as its impressive new building that opened this fall. Most can remember the sometimes dismal and distant Herron School on 16th Street."

Tour members seemed more interested that most groups, according to Kim Hodges, director of development. She said they asked more in-depth questions, including queries about the impact of Herron on the campus, community relationships with other campus departments, the impact of other art schools in the city, even how gasoline prices have affected the cost of paint.

Among the facilities that seemed to draw special interest was the furniture design studio. "Some eyes lit up when they saw the tools and the projects," and they especially were happy with interactions with students and faculty, said Hodges, who conducted one group while a second went with Tara Maners.

One tour member asked about sponsorships of rooms and equipment. Hodges said that begins at \$3,000 for a display case, and can go up. Most rooms and facilities are named for donors, including the building named Eskinazi Hall. No one asked about sponsoring a trash can.

A question also was asked: "What is art?" While Hodges said she wanted to sidestep that question, she did admit that one meaning may be: "Any visual expression of ideas and emotions."

Senior Sentinel

News of the IUPUI
Senior Academy
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Chili for Charity: This popular campus event again drew help from Senior Academy members. On a cold fall day thousands of dollars was raised for the campus United Way campaign.

Bookmark:

www.iupui.edu/~sacademy/index.htm

Academy Calendar

December 7, 2005: 11 am to 2 p.m. **Christmas luncheon and wine tasting at Easley Winery** --Mary Soja

March 8, 2006: International luncheon (tentative) --Aristea Pappas

May 3rd and 4th, 2006: Trip to Corydon overnight. While it is still in the planning stage, we expect to include a tour of the old state capitol, a visit to a glass factory and winery and dinner at Clifty Overlook. There will be an optional tour of Wyandotte Cave or antique hunting in Leavenworth the next morning. Deadline for signing up is Feb.1. Call 1-888-739-2120 --Ron Frank

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Plater Lauded by Bepko

His former boss calls Bill Plater "the most talented academic executive" he has known. Jerry Bepko, former IUPUI chancellor, lauded Plater for his work in teaching, research, technology and service.

Plater made extra sacrifices in order to teach as well as conduct his assigned duties as executive vice chancellor, Bepko said. One of the hallmarks of his 18 years here was the creation of the Center for Teaching and Learning.

He championed innovative technology for the campus, especially as a teaching tool. He also supported faculty by creation of a variety of centers in interdisciplinary fields "that helped to define IUPUI," according to Bepko.

The words "noble, passionate, example," are sprinkled in an effusive review of the Plater years by Bepko.

Academy Helps Make IUPUI "Work"

Since its inception, the Senior Academy has met its goal of "what we too easily refer to as collegiality," the character and fabric of IUPUI, says Bill Plater. He defines it as the ability to work across and around disciplinary, geographic, cultural and status differences that makes IUPUI "work."

The Academy, he feels "is the guardian of this spirit." Plater has been a champion of the Senior Academy.

"As I have traveled around the country I have met many people who know Bill Plater and his work very well. They attribute to him an important leadership role in helping to define learning programs of the future," Bepko said.

Plater leaves at the end of the academic year to go to the Center on Philanthropy.

Board Members and their Schools.

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Nagy, Paul

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Rothe, Carl

San Pietro, Tony

Schultheis, Don W. (Pres.)

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Many Students Unwise Money-wise: Scholarship Director

The director of the Office of Student Scholarships feels that too many students are wrongly using student loans or credit card debt to finance their educations, high debt that encumbers them for ages after leaving school.

Beth Barnette told the Senior Academy Board in October that one likely reason is that students have an unrealistic idea about the cost of a college education. At IUPUI that is a minimum of about \$18,000 annually. The average debt when students graduate is \$20,000 to \$40,000 for undergraduates, and \$60,000 to \$80,000 for graduate and professional students..

They also apparently have grown up in an age where needs are secondary to wants.

“This generation is used to a certain standard of living and wants to maintain it while in school. I came from a generation that understood that you were supposed to be poor [meaning sacrifice] to attend college. Today’s students seem to be unaware of or don’t understand the meaning of credit or penalties,” she said. “They take out an unbelievable amount in loans.”

About 45 percent of those who apply for scholarship aid at IUPUI don’t receive any. Assistance through the Scholarships Office is limited to 125 percent of tuition and books “to limit the number who could get too much and allow us to serve as many students as possible with our resources,” she said. Students often can receive several scholarships, have jobs, have parental support, and many bring outside aid to school. She said about \$2.5 million in external scholarships is brought in by students when they enroll.

IUPUI aid is still merit-based rather than need-based. IUPUI is bound by an IU system policy that favors full-time and beginning students for scholarship aid. IUPUI was founded on a base of part-time students, although that is changing.

An example of a financial “hardship” for recognizing outstanding students is the Presidential Scholarships that gives the campus a

Strong is the Word for Michelle

Reports Ursula Roberts, mentor for one of our scholarship students, Michelle Strong.

She’s still enrolled, despite her house burning down, a surgery causing a week away from classes, and still maintaining a high grade average. She is a widow with four children.

Ursula says Michelle “keeps going, and asks for no help.”

third of the cost of the \$9,000 scholarships, and IUPUI is mandated to make up the rest. Ten of the 40 Presidential scholarships are at IUPUI, 20 are at IUB.

Among other points she made include the opinion that the \$2,000 level of the two scholarships provided by the Senior Academy is adequate. That amount is adequate for four or five more years when the scholarship levels are to be evaluated. Amounts generally

may go up then by about \$500 to \$1,000, she said.

If the Academy wants to offer another scholarship, it may consider one for upperclassmen or continuing students. There are unmet needs for those who have more than \$4,000 from families or outside sources. These students often do not qualify for regular financial aid and thus get nothing.

One positive aspect of the high number of first time college students among our population is encouraging, she said. “Some parents get excited when their child goes to school. They want to come to school too and so we often see parents who enroll alongside their children. That fact illustrates one of the unique qualities about IUPUI.”

Medicare Drug Program Confusing, but Help is Available

More than 60 Academy members were told that the drug benefit through Medicare is not only confusing, but “is a fallacy” and apparently it will remain so as the rules and experiences unravel.

Ed Solinski, who is a volunteer with SHIIP, told one of the largest Senior Academy gatherings in recent years that Medicare Part D is “a shopping experience” as there are so many options and plans that careful study and personal needs seem to make easy choices difficult. SHIIP stands for Senior Health Insurance Information Program.

There are options. For veterans, the VA drug plan is better than any Medicare plan at \$7.50 per prescription, he said. But investigation of other sites can give further help. The VA can be contacted by calling 877-222-8387.

The Medicare site (www.medicare.gov) allows you to put in your current prescription, the frequency and dosage, and it will provide some cost comparisons on a formulary. The SHIIP site can give other information, including packets on various types of insurance for seniors. You also can call SHIIP at 800-452-4800. The AARP site (www.aarp.org) gives other information.

For unbiased help, the State Department of Insurance also offers phone help at 800-452-4800 to discuss aspects of the insurance plans. The state website, www.IN.gov also has a rating system for insurance companies on their consumer satisfactions.

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Sentinel

of IUPUI's Senior Academy



Admiring Glances:
Delores McDonald, left,
and Beverly Ross, both
from the School of
Nursing, admire art in
the Herron Gallery as
part of the Senior Acad-
emy Tour.

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Senior Sentinel

of IUPUI's Senior Academy

The Pres Says: **Our Goal is \$25,000**

Happy Holidays to you and your families! By the time you read this we will have come together to enjoy our holiday luncheon. We have had a good year. Indiana University and most especially IUPUI have had another great year. Research funding and philanthropic funding are at record levels. With these funds the exciting work taking place will continue and grow.

Among the excitement for IUPUI is the groundbreaking for the new Campus Center. You will find an update article below in this newsletter telling you more about the building. At our November board meeting we had a presentation from Indiana University Foundation concerning the building and the associated naming opportunities. I am pleased to announce that the board passed by unanimous vote a resolution to begin a campaign to fund a meeting room in the building. Our goal is \$25,000 with hopes that we can exceed that goal and fund the main meeting room on the ground level of the building.

This space in the new building will provide a permanent legacy to the campus by the membership of the Senior Academy. Since the building is essentially paid for with other funding, our gift along with gifts from other philanthropists will help to endow programming. I am forming a new committee to explore which area of interest we would like our funds to support. The choices



are: leadership, diversity, or cultural programming. **Michelle Verduczo**, the Director of Campus and Community Life will be assisting us in brainstorming ideas.

We are planning a campaign kickoff event to be held in April 2006. In the meantime, you will continue to receive information about the campaign and its progress. I hope you will join with me and the board in making this campaign a success. ---**Don Schultheis**, President

Some Campus Center Background

The \$56 million multipurpose Campus Center will be a long desired focal point for students, faculty, and the Indianapolis community. The five-story limestone and glass structure now rising at Michigan St. and University Blvd., should enhance IUPUI student experiences, increase the sense of inclusion in campus life, and ultimately boost retention rates, said Susan Cornacchione, senior development director for the IU Foundation in Indianapolis.

State appropriations will pay for 20 percent of the project. Student fees and revenue from the campus bookstore and other auxiliary retail enterprises will cover the remainder.

Private donors are being sought for costs for the center and student programming. Opportunities for attaching a name to rooms and facilities for nearly all exterior and interior parts of the Campus Center, including the building itself, are being offered.

Construction is scheduled for completion in 2007. Among the building's features are a 250-seat theater and a 600-seat dining area, along with gathering spaces, lounges, meeting and event rooms. Admissions, bursar, and financial aid offices, plus other student support and leadership functions also will be included. According to estimates, between 10,000 and 12,000 individuals are expected to use the Campus Center on a daily basis.

One of the building's defining characteristics will be the 179-foot bell tower, which Vice Chancellor Karen Whitney predicted would become "an instant downtown and campus icon."

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