

## eDimensions February/March 2014



### Dean's Welcome

Improving the lives of others, while embracing competition, are core values in the School of Engineering and Technology's strategic plan. Our faculty, staff, and students continue to distinguish themselves in their areas of expertise. This issue of eDimensions provides a few examples.

In faculty achievements, Pete Hylton was recently inducted into the Sports Car Club of America Hall of Fame. As director of our motorsports engineering program, Pete takes quite literally the charge to compete and win at the highest levels. Read more in Pete's profile.

Diversity is another core value in our strategic plan. We value diversity in all of its forms in our research, curricula, and pedagogy and in our faculty, staff, and student composition. Thanks to the leadership of Engineering and Technology's career and student services organization, we are making positive strides in the recruitment of underrepresented students. Sara Grimany, a senior in mechanical engineering from Puerto Rico, is one shining example. Besides excelling in academics, she has taken on a significant leadership role to enhance the climate and professional opportunities for underrepresented students through our student chapter of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers. I know you will enjoy reading more about her plans after graduation.

Our interior design technology program was recently visited by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation. The visit went very well and the evaluators commented on the high degree of community engagement of our students and faculty. I know reading about the safe house that was designed for orphans in Swaziland by our students will touch you in a profound way. Congratulations to Hayley Earley whose design was selected for construction in Africa. The impact of our School is truly global.

We greatly appreciate the generous gifts that we have received from alumni and friends. We hope that you will continue to support the School of Engineering and Technology with your time and treasure. We will work diligently to continually improve the School to compete and succeed at the highest levels.

Dr. David J. Russomanno, Dean



### Hylton to be inducted into Sports Car Club of America Hall of Fame

Peter Hylton, a race car driver and professor at IUPUI, will be inducted into the Sports Car Club of America Hall of Fame.

Hylton, an associate professor of mechanical engineering technology and director of Motorsports Engineering, is among six people who will be recognized as the 2014 Hall of Fame class at the Sports Car Club of America annual convention

March 8 in Charlotte, N.C.

The Hall of Fame inductees were selected for their contributions to the motorsports industry as a

whole, and to Sports Car Club of America in particular, according to a Sports Car Club of America article. The accomplishments of the 2014 class, along with the previous Hall of Fame inductees, are the building blocks that have given the club its elevated stature in the world of motorsports for 70 years, the article said.

Hylton's knowledge, experience and enthusiasm for the Sports Car Club have made him a champion of the organization, and he has preserved details of the club's history that could have, potentially, been lost to the ages, the article said.

"Among his accomplishments, Hylton was instrumental in the founding of the very Hall of Fame of which he now becomes enshrined," the article said. "He held numerous leadership positions in the Indianapolis Region SCCA and served on the Club's Board of Directors. His role as SCCA archivist helped countless individuals learn the history of their race car, and uncover hidden jewels. Hylton has penned two books: 'Ghost Tracks: A Historical Look at America's Lost Road Racing Track' and 'Sports Car Club of America 60 Years in Pictures.' Not just focused on the past, Hylton directed the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis' Motorsports Technology program to spread his motorsports knowledge and passion to college students."

IUPUI became the first university in the United States to offer a bachelor's degree in motorsports engineering. Approved in 2008, the program prepares graduates for careers in the motorsports industry, as well as automotive-related companies. The focus is on teaching fundamentals of engineering and includes hands-on projects that involve designing, analyzing and building of actual systems.



### Student Sara Grimany is looking forward to a new career and warmer weather

*By Ric Burrous*

Senior Sara Grimany was born and raised in the warmth of Puerto Rico, so spending her collegiate years at IUPUI has been a big change of pace, weather-wise.

Especially this year, said the mechanical engineering major in the School of Engineering and Technology.

"I've enjoyed experiencing the different seasons here, and the first time I ever saw snow was my first year at IUPUI," she laughed. But the harsh winter weather this year has her thinking that the warmer weather of her native land -- and of Freeport, Texas, where she has already signed up to work for Dow Chemical after she graduates this May -- is rather appealing.

Her new job will be a big change of pace from the work she has pursued for Carrier Corporation in Indianapolis during an internship representing the School of Engineering and Technology. "I've been working around air conditioners, and now I'm going to have to learn how to work in a chemical plant," Grimany said.

But she feels well prepared for either type of work. After all, she grew up the daughter of a mechanical engineer. "Since I was a little girl, I always wanted to know the purpose of things and how they function," Grimany said.

Grimany, along with her fraternal twin sister Cristina, also had another desire: to attend college in the U.S. And thanks to recruiting efforts by Terri Talbert Hatch of Engineering and Technology, both Puerto Rican natives achieved that goal.

However, the two followed different paths once on campus. "I wanted to become a mechanical engineer, while Cristina was more a 'people person,'" Grimany said. So her sister pursued

organizational leadership and supervision in the technology part of the school.

"It worked out for us both," said Grimany, adding with a chuckle that "Cristina has become quite a recruiter back home, encouraging people to consider IUPUI and engineering."

Campus life at IUPUI has been a good fit for Grimany, too, she noted.

"I wanted to try all the campus activities I could," Grimany said. "That included community service work, student organizations and work experience."

During her time at IUPUI, Grimany was a vice president of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers and was active in the Society of Women Engineers.

Grimany is fond of her civic engagement activities. "It's rewarding to see how you make an impact," she said. "Sometimes, you think it's not very exciting, but you are making a difference. The environment is better, and people can see what you did for them. You can see how you made a difference."



### IUPUI student designs safe house for children in Swaziland

An interior design student at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis has designed a "safe house" that will be built to protect child-led families in the Kingdom of Swaziland in southern Africa who desperately need safe places to live.

A full-sized section of the safe house, built by the Indiana/Kentucky/Ohio Regional Council of Carpenters, will be unveiled at 6 p.m. today at an exhibit of photographs that explores the lives of these children, "Hope Seekers: Survival of Southern African Child-Led Households in the Shadow of HIV." The section of the safe house will be displayed in the main lobby at Hine Hall from Feb. 19 to Feb. 25.

"The exhibit tells the stories of these children and really allows people to enter into an experience of gaining more of an intimate look at the child-led households in South Africa," said Cynthia Prime, CEO of Saving Orphans through Healthcare and Outreach. SOHO is an Indianapolis-based nonprofit organization taking a leading role in efforts to help educate, nurture and feed the child-led families.

The exhibit, hosted by the Herron School of Art and Design at IUPUI, runs through Saturday, Feb. 22, in the Marsh Gallery at Eskenazi Hall, 735 W. New York St.

The number of households in Swaziland led by children, some as young as 8, is mushrooming, resulting from an HIV/AIDS pandemic that is creating a new orphan every 14 seconds.

Prime talked at the beginning of the fall semester to an interior design class in the Purdue School of Engineering and Technology about the need for safe houses to protect orphans who not only are forced to undertake the responsibilities of independent adults but face dangerous, violent living conditions.

Each of the 12 students in the class designed a safe house, with Hayley Earley's design chosen by SOHO to serve as a model home for a new village in Swaziland that will be called the Village of Hope.

The class lecturer, Beth Huffman, plans to take the class to Swaziland in the summer of 2015 to construct a safe house.

The 800-square-foot sustainable safe house will be constructed of local materials and feature a single sloping roof and a rainwater collection and filtration system. Safety features include windows placed high on the walls and an outdoor courtyard surrounded by high walls. Six orphan girls will live in the safe house that provides communal sleeping and living spaces.

In a written presentation of her design, Earley wrote that the children of Swaziland have very few adults to cherish and protect them from the dangers of their world. "This is why the sustainable housing units are such an important endeavor to start to build the nourishing community these children so desperately need. Building this groundwork to create a safe haven and a means to a more thriving reality is hopefully just the beginning for these six girls that will occupy this homestead.

"As AIDS cheats these kids of parents, it is common that the surviving family also will cheat them out of anything moveable or of value from their remaining homes," Earley said. "Everything the children knew to be theirs is ripped away from them along with their parents. For this reason, it's essential that furniture be built into the walls of the home or fixed together resulting in immobility. It is my goal that the young girls of the homestead will feel safe, secure and confident in their permanent dwellingSwazil."

In addition to the Indiana/Kentucky/Ohio Regional Council of Carpenters, exhibit sponsors are Herron School of Art and Design, Josef Kissinger Photography, Saving Orphans through Healthcare and Outreach, IUPUI Office of International Affairs, WFYI, IUPUI Solution Center, IUPUI Museum Studies, Department of History at IUPUI School of Liberal Arts and Society of Student Constructors.

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### Thank you for a successful CONNECTIONS Women in Engineering Networking Event!

Thanks to everyone who attended the CONNECTIONS Women in Engineering and Engineering Technology networking event held on February 13th with Purdue School of Engineering and Technology, IUPUI! Our event could not have been successful without you! Here are some photos from the event: [CONNECTIONS album](#).