



IUPUI Chancellor  
**Charles R. Bantz**

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## GREETINGS FROM IUPUI

April-May 2014

I have spent the past 11 Mother's Days with thousands of very happy people at IUPUI's commencement ceremonies. During that weekend, we celebrate students who have earned IU and Purdue degrees from our more than 20 schools.

This past Mother's Day was the 45th annual IUPUI Commencement where 6,479 students were awarded 6,549 degrees including 1,390 from Purdue University and 5,159 from Indiana University. In addition, three very special degrees—Honorary Doctorates—were awarded to internationally known leaders in their fields.



**Angela Barron McBride** (Honorary Doctor of Science Degree) is a distinguished professor emerita of nursing and the university dean emerita of the IU School of Nursing. She is recognized as a Living Legend by the American Academy of Nursing. Under her leadership, all eight campuses of the IU School of Nursing became accredited, a PhD program was established, web-based education was launched, and millions of dollars for the school were garnered. She is a member of the Institute of Medicine and former president of nursing's honor society, Sigma Theta Tau International.

**George Stookey** (Honorary Doctor of Science Degree) devoted his entire career as a scientist, academician, and administrator to Indiana University. He pioneered groundbreaking research in the use of

fluoride for preventive dentistry as well as research for early detection of tooth decay. He transformed the IU School of Dentistry Oral Health Research Institute into a global leader for research and product testing. George served as the dental school's interim dean, executive associate dean, and associate dean for research. And he is continuing his entrepreneurialism and research today as President and CEO of Therametric Technologies.

**Jean Case** (Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters) is a renowned philanthropist and pioneer in the world of interactive technologies. She and her husband, Steve Case, created the Case Foundation in 1997. Before that, she was a senior executive at America Online, Inc. (AOL), the company founded by her husband. The mission of the Case Foundation is "to invest in people and ideas that can change the world" through entrepreneurship, innovation and technology. The Case Foundation has given away more than \$100 million to nonprofits and social initiatives.

They are individuals whose life works have impacted an incalculable number of human beings. And speaking of numbers, I always find it fascinating to look at the characteristics of each graduating class.



Some 106 graduates earned a distinctive place in campus history as they became the first graduating class of IUPUI Honors Scholars. They began their college careers four years ago or less as first-time freshmen recruited for a transformative IUPUI Honors College experience that was challenging, engaging, meaningful, relevant, and

one that provided a strong foundation for a lifetime of learning and engagement.

The largest count of degrees was awarded as follows: Bachelor of Arts, 671, with psychology at 116 being the largest major. The second most frequent degree was the Bachelor of Science, 593, with computer and information technology, 76, being the largest major.

Some 89.4 percent of the graduates were Indiana residents, 57.6 percent were female, and 27.4 percent were the first in their families to graduate from college. Among them were five sets of twins. The youngest graduate was 19, and the oldest, 71. An impressive 32 graduates were IUPUI athletes.

More than 470 graduates were international students representing 100 countries. More than 400 graduates participated in study abroad programs, contributing to IUPUI's efforts to prepare students to compete on a global playing field in the 21st century.

Two members of the Class of 2014 were selected to articulate the experience and outlook for the thousands of classmates they represented. **Blair Nicholas Brown**, who earned his bachelor's in Criminal Justice from the School of Public and Environmental Affairs, spoke to the morning commencement. The afternoon address was delivered by **Emily Jean Potts**, who received bachelor degrees in biology and Spanish from the Purdue School of Science and the IU School of Liberal Arts. Both speakers were exemplary scholars and citizens at IUPUI.

Blair served as senator for Undergraduate Student Government and a 21st Century Scholars mentor. He earned certification from the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy in 2012 and during his senior year, worked as an officer with the IUPUI Police Department.

Emily was a Bepko Scholar in the IU Honors Program, whose affiliations included associate executive director for the Regatta Steering Committees in 2012 and 2013, student representative on the IUAA Board of Managers, and vice-president of Student Organization for Alumni Relations (SOAR).

These two extraordinary graduates—as a result of their own tenacity, support of loved ones and the caring professionalism of IUPUI faculty and staff—affirm the impact of learning and engagement at IUPUI.

My congratulations to these two promising graduates, our three honorary doctorate recipients and the entire IUPUI Class of 2014! The future is in good hands.

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CHANCELLOR CHARLES R. BANTZ

Send your comments to [chancldr@iupui.edu](mailto:chancldr@iupui.edu)

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