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GREETINGS FROM IUPUI

October 2014

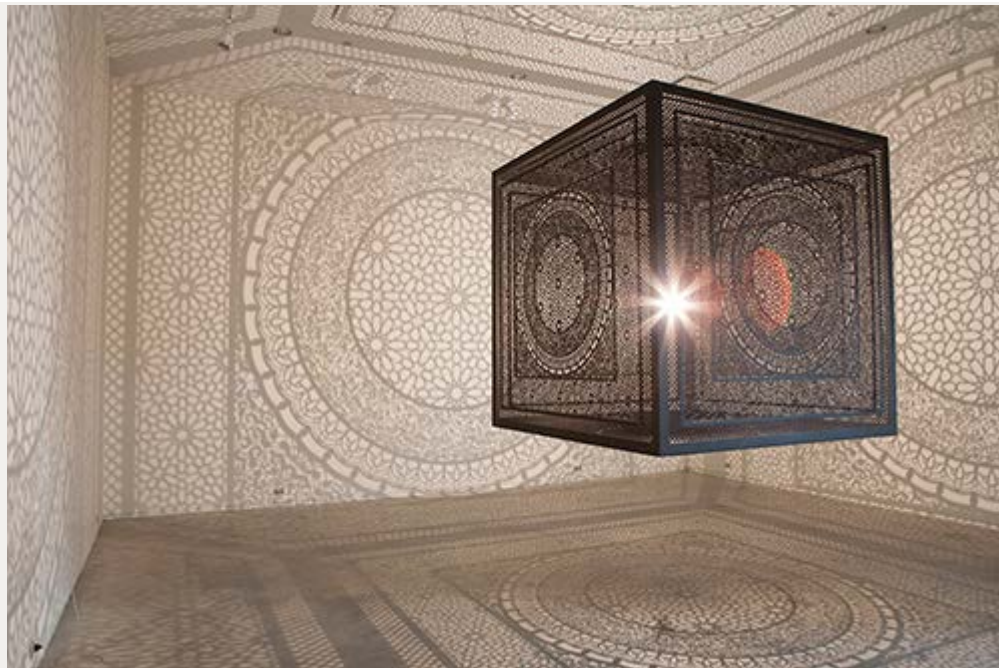
Milestones of global significance are characteristic of IUPUI faculty and staff, but the achievements so far in the month of October are especially impressive!

Let's start with the amazing recognition of Herron Art and Design professor Anila Quayyum Agha who won the top two awards at ArtPrize 2014—earning a record \$300,000 in the international art competition held in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Her stunning entry, entitled "**Intersections**," won the ArtPrize 2014 Public Vote Grand Prize of \$200,000 and split the Juried Grand Prize of \$200,000.

Agha's wins mark the first time one entry has won both the ArtPrize grand prize—awarded by popular vote—and the grand prize awarded by a jury of international art experts. Her total prize is also the highest amount given to one individual in the competition, which awards the world's largest art prize.

The professor's "**Intersections**," completed under a 2012–13 New Frontiers Research Grant from Indiana University, is composed of a 6.5-foot laser-cut wooden cube created using Herron's new computer numeric control router.



Mesmerizing creation of IUPUI professor captivated international art experts and the public.

When illuminated by the single bulb installed inside, the wooden frieze casts patterns of light and shadows inspired by the geometric patterning of Islamic sacred places as found in the Alhambra Palace in Granada, Spain.

Agha's unprecedented honors reflect anything but overnight success. Her creative and scholarly work was supported by the IUPUI Arts and Humanities Internal Grant Program, and by the Enhanced Mentoring Program with Opportunities for Ways to Excel in Research (EMPOWER). Agha was selected for the year-long EMPOWER mentoring program while an assistant professor, seeking to excel in research and scholarly activity as well as get on track for success in the promotion and tenure process. She has since been promoted to Associate Professor.

Both of these programs have been developed and are administered through the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research to support their pursuit of excellence.

Just a few other outstanding IUPUI faculty and staff achievements in October include:

- **IUPUI Researchers were recognized this month for developing a technique to jump-start the body's systems for creating blood vessels—opening the door for potential new**

treatments for diseases whose impacts include amputation and blindness. The international team, led by Mervin Yoder, Jr., at the Indiana University School of Medicine, is targeting new therapies for illnesses such as peripheral artery disease, a painful leg condition caused by poor blood circulation.

- **Anagin, a company launched by two Indiana University scientists to develop a first-of-its-kind** treatment to battle post-traumatic stress disorder, emerged from six finalists to win the third annual BioCrossroads New Venture Competition. Co-founders of Anagin are IU School of Medicine professor and Director of Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute Anantha Shekhar and Yvonne Lai, a senior scientist with IU's Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences in Bloomington.
- **I congratulate another member of the IUPUI family Jerome Adams, M.D., MPH**—assistant professor of clinical anesthesia at IU School of Medicine—who was named commissioner for the Indiana State Department of Health by Governor Mike Pence this month. Jerome currently serves as a staff anesthesiologist at Eskenazi Health, where he is chair of the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.

Closing out a busy month

An activity called the Chicago Connection will feature IUPUI alumni, staff, faculty and current students interacting for two days with prospective students, their parents and potential corporate partners this week in the Windy City. Also, IUPUI will host the **4th Annual Midwest Conference of the African Student Association** October 24-26—to promote socio-cultural diversity and to educate students on Africa's culture, history, economy and political structures.

Finally, the IUPUI Human Resources Administration will conduct a campus **Health and Benefits Fair** with free screenings and great information on fitness from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Friday, October 31, on the fourth floor of the Campus Center.

CHANCELLOR CHARLES R. BANTZ

Send your comments to chancllr@iupui.edu.

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