



GREETINGS FROM IUPUI

December 2014

The IUPUI Year in Review

In my role as chancellor I am the chief champion for the achievements of our students, faculty, staff, and alumni. And this year, again, provides an astonishing array of success by the tens of thousands of students, faculty, staff and alumni. Think of a peer mentor who helps a first-year student understand differential equations, a faculty member who crisply explains why the meter of a poem shapes the meaning of the lines, a staff member who helps a faculty member submit her grant on time, a donor whose gift makes it possible for a student to study overseas, an alumnae who assumes leadership of a major national organization, or the generosity of a staff member helping a visitor find their way to the child care center. As I reflect on the numerous achievements of 2014, I'd like to share a few that were contributed to by so many.

We started 2014 assessing our commitment to diversity with the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Dinner hosted by the Black Student Union. The hugely successful event is inspirational and symbolic. The beginning of the year also was the beginning of Khalilah A. Shabazz's service as director of the IUPUI Multicultural Center.



Khalilah Shabazz

It was a year in which IUPUI was recognized in several rankings, beginning in February with the IU School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, listed number 11 in the nation by students on the website GraduatePrograms.com, which also ranked the IU School of Social Work in the Top 10 nationally.

Our alumni make us proud as they contribute to Indianapolis and the world. In February, President Barack Obama nominated **Jane Chu**—a Ph.D. alumna of the IU Lilly Family School of Philanthropy—to chair the National Endowment for the Arts.

Also in February, we celebrated the symbolic groundbreaking of University Hall at the corner of University Boulevard and New York Street. University Hall will be home to the IU Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, as well as provide additional space for the IU School of Social Work. In June 2015, University Hall will also become the first permanent home for the IUPUI administration and we will leave the “triple-wide” AO building after 40 years.

In March, three Kelley School of Business students—**Payne Chestnut, Usman Chaudhary and Rosham Selladurai**—were

selected as winners of the third annual Ideas Solving Social and Economic Challenges “pitch” competition. The contest, organized by IUPUI Vice Chancellor for Research Kody Varahramyan, encourages students to come up with innovative ideas to solve real-world problems through new approaches, products, services or ventures.

In April, IUPUI fielded the first all-female team to race in the Purdue Grand Prix in the event’s 57–year history. They were **Nicole Stout, Nikki Saxon, Alison Egli, Lindsey Ewing, Maddie Demert, Alyssa Selnar and driver Allison Schoch**.

In May, I announced the appointment of three new Chancellor’s Professors. They were chosen for outstanding contributions in teaching, research, engagement and service to IUPUI: **Simon J. Atkinson**, professor and chair of the Department of Biology at the IUPUI School of Science; **Linda Adele Goodine**, professor of photography at the IU Herron School of Art and Design; and **Richard Gunderman**, professor and vice chair of the Department of Radiology Education at the IU School of Medicine, who is also a professor of Philosophy and Philanthropy.

In June, IUPUI University Library Dean David W. Lewis’ article “Inventing the Electronic University” was selected by readers of *College & Research Libraries* as one of seven “landmark” articles for a special journal marking the association’s 75th anniversary. David’s article perceptively projected key trends and technologies, such as the digital collection, that University Library at IUPUI and the campus use to engage with students and the community.

In July, the city of Indianapolis, the Lilly Endowment, the Indiana Sports Corporation, Indiana University and IUPUI teamed up to reveal plans to renovate the most highly-regarded indoor competition pool in the nation, the Natatorium. Improvements will be completed by May 2016 when we host the Olympic trials.

In August, we welcomed the most first-year students to IUPUI ever with **3,927 beginning freshmen** enrolled—a 6.5 percent increase from the previous record set in 2013. And for an **incredible 19th straight year, IUPUI reported a record number of credit hours**.

In September, IUPUI launched a new effort to enhance transfer student success. Based on its commitment to transfer students and

their first-year experience—recognized as being among the best in the nation by US News and World Report for the past 13 years—IUPUI was selected to participate in the Foundations of Excellence Transfer Focus project sponsored by the John N. Gardner Institute for Excellence in Undergraduate Education Initiative.

Also in September, the national magazine *Lawyers of Color* named the Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law as one of the top five law schools in the Midwest in its 2014 edition of the *Black Student's Guide to Law Schools*.

In October, IUPUI celebrated the 50th anniversary of the national Upward Bound program, which has been on campus since 1995 and is part of the student retention and success programs of University College.

In November, the Jaguars men's basketball team played the first game at its new home court located at the Indiana Fairgrounds Farmers Coliseum. While the team lost an overtime-thriller to Indiana State University, it was promising to see a large and enthusiastic crowd in the stands. It was also the first game for new IUPUI coach Jason Gardner, an Indianapolis native and former Mr. Indiana Basketball.

In December, the IU Board of Trustees approved the design of a new 700-bed residence hall, which will be on North Street near University Tower. When North Hall opens, more than 2,500 students will live on campus (up from 350 in 2003)!



Neighborhood health clinics operated by IU School of Medicine students in Indianapolis provided meaningful service-learning experience in 2014.

Topping off the year was news in December that IUPUI again made The President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for institutions whose community service efforts achieve meaningful outcomes. This distinction is the highest federal recognition that colleges and universities can receive for community service, service-learning, and civic engagement. IUPUI was named to the prestigious Honor Roll with Distinction in the Community Service category and the Honor Roll for Education.

Finally, I announced that I will be stepping down as chancellor in August 2015 and joining the faculty. Many people have asked me "why now?" One reason is personal. After 20 years in university administration, I see the opportunity to launch the next phase of my professional life. The other reason is illustrated by this newsletter: The people of IUPUI are achieving so much, the leadership is strong, and IUPUI is making an impact—everyday. It is a good time to hand the "chief champion" duties to the next chancellor.

May your holidays be bright with family and love. May the New Year be productive and joyful.
