

Take Five

September 1, 2015

This Week in Academic Affairs



“Take 5.” That’s my request—that is, to take 5 minutes each week to read this one-page newsletter, where you can expect to “get 5” (or more) useful things in return: important news, opportunities to connect with students, and shout-outs for colleagues whose Kokomojo meters are off the charts. ● Scott Jones and Kristen Snoddy are working together this semester to promote student success. As temporary **Retention Director**, Scott is studying our current practices, as well as best practices in place elsewhere, to help us develop the right mix of initiatives. As temporary **Retention Coordinator**, Kristen will work with Scott and coordinate our efforts with Inside Track, tutoring, and other current initiatives. They may be reaching out to many of you for ideas and assistance. ● After talking with some of you, I have become aware of a few issues with our current approach to the FLAGS early-alert system. Going forward, you may submit FLAGS at any point in the semester (not just at the 5- and 10-week marks), but I ask that you make sure to respond at least once before the end of the third week so that our advisors can reach out to students who are having problems in their courses. Don’t worry about calculating precise grades. The point is simply to identify students who might need a little extra help. Even ungraded work, along with attendance and class participation, should be sufficient to help you determine who could use assistance. Advisors will be checking flags after the third, sixth, ninth, and twelfth weeks and following up with students with flags. They then will update faculty. If you hit any snags, please let me know right away. My goal is an easy-to-use tool we can use to help students succeed. Thanks in advance for submitting your flags by the end of the third week.



The campus was bustling during the first week of the fall semester.

This Week at IU Kokomo

- 9/2: Activities Fair (11 a.m.-1 p.m., Alumni Hall)
- 9/2: Kingston’s Coffeehouse (6-9 p.m., Alumni Hall)
- 9/3: Activities Fair (2-4 p.m., Alumni Hall)
- 9/4: Program on Cyberbullying (8-9 a.m., KC 130)

“Our teachers were amazing and very supportive. I have learned so much being in this program... and feel so prepared and ready to start at IUK.”

-Summer Bridge student

Kudos for Kokomojo

- Leda Casey, Paul Cook, Roz Davis, Joanne Kaiser, Susan Skoczen, Minda Douglas, Tara Kinglsey, Karla Stouse, and Michelle Westervelt delivered fantastic Summer Bridge classes, inspiring the quotation above (along with many other positive evaluations).
- Inside IU features a story on Hisako Masuda’s research, designed to reduce the amount of plastics in landfills.