

• Robert Dible, Ph.D., professor of public affairs and dean of the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at IU Kokomo, recently published another new book with the title, "Comparative Perspectives on Civil Society."

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Leadership Institute to Benefit Region

This past summer, our Director of Continuing Education, Fred Hakes recommended a little book for my reading list. *Change or Die*, by Alan Deutschman, was a quick and interesting read, particularly in light of the work Fred, Sue Sciame-Giesecke and I were planning in the campus' Regional Leadership Institute (RLI) that will get underway this November. Based on the idea that achieving and sustaining economic success requires both committed leaders and connectivity among and between our communities and counties, as well as across public, private and governmental sectors, the idea for the Regional Leadership Institute was born.



Interim Chancellor
Stuart Green

The project is supported by the Workforce Initiative for Regional Economic Development (WIRED), a federal grant that IU Kokomo competed for and secured, along with Ivy Tech and our Purdue partners in West Lafayette. The WIRED initiative has many components and we are very pleased and proud that IU Kokomo is part of this effort. We are especially pleased to continue the campus' role as a facilitator of educational opportunities and key discussions.

The connection between the RLI and Deutschman's book is his argument for the power of community and culture to initiate and sustain meaningful change. He observes that change, important change, is incredibly difficult.

So what does work to bring about meaningful change? Very simply, three things: relationships, reframing and repetition. As a life-long educator, let me add that these three elements also require accurate, often expert, knowledge to guide and support change.

Having read *Change or Die*, I am now even more excited about the relationship building aspects of our RLI effort. I believe that the campus is serving our communities in exactly the right capacity, as a convener and facilitator of important regional conversations. For it will be together that we change our region for the better for all our current and future citizens.

Best Regards,

Political Activist, Author Kevin Powell Visits Campus, Freshman Learning Communities

Award-winning author Kevin Powell shared his experiences as a writer and community organizer to the freshman learning community on campus last month. Powell, former cast member for MTV's "The Real World," has published several books, including *Someday We'll All Be Free* and *No Sleep Till Brooklyn*.

These books were selected as part of the first-year reading program for all freshman enrolled in English Composition I.

"Don't allow others to put a limit on your goals," Powell told a group of students. He encouraged them to pursue their dreams, whatever they may be. "We need to live life fully."

Powell's own dream of winning the 10th congressional district in New York was recently stalled, but told students he plans to push for his goal and run again in 2010. "Never give up," he said.

Many students engaged in the question and answer sessions where Powell explained his desire to become a writer began when he was 11 years old after reading a novel by Ernest Hemingway.

Powell took time to meet with the students after the discussion and sign books. A public lecture also took place later that evening.

Three Academic Programs See Enrollment Growth

The IU Kokomo campus is bustling once again as students make their way to classes during this fall semester. The new academic year brings a significant enrollment increase of 13 percent in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing, as well as a 5 percent growth in the education and continuing studies programs.

In addition, the senior class is the largest in history, boasting a 15 percent increase to 603 students, while the junior class had a modest gain to 400, up from 394.

"Our junior and senior classes are a mix of students who begin at IU Kokomo and move through on a traditional timeline; transfer students who start at another school and wish to earn an IU degree; and students who, due to work, family, and other obligations, take a little longer to earn their degree," said Jack Tharp, vice chancellor of student services, explaining the growth and disparity between class sizes. "We are thrilled to have the increases. It is now our charge to make sure we continue to move them along the path to graduation."

Reaching Higher, a recently-released strategic initiative by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education, places an emphasis on degree completion. For eight years in a row, IU Kokomo has graduated a record number of students.



Author Kevin Powell speaks to a group of IU Kokomo students.

- Dr. Songwen Xie, assistant professor of chemistry, received the Distinguished Award for Innovative College Science Teaching for 2008 by the Hoosier Association of Science Teachers, Inc.

Web Re-designers Seek Input

Community members and prospective students are encouraged to participate in a survey that will help create a more user-friendly Web site for Indiana University Kokomo.



Organizers are requesting feedback from anyone who uses the resources available on the site during the re-design phase. A link is available on the site's home page at www.iuk.edu.

"The purpose of the Web survey is to make sure we are going in the right direction," said Stefanie Lorenz, manager for the campus Web redesign.

The survey takes about five minutes to complete, and seeks input on items that may or may not be important to the user. As an incentive, each participant will be entered in a drawing for the chance to win a \$50 VISA gift card. The information provided is essential in continuing to improve the IU Kokomo experience for students, faculty, staff, community members, and everyone who is involved with the campus.

Accountability at Forefront

Indiana University Kokomo stands at the forefront of accountability by participating in a newly-launched Web site that features an assessment of colleges and universities across the country. College Portrait, a voluntary program, compares student characteristics, costs, student experience and learning outcomes.

The College Portrait Web site, at www.collegeportraits.org, provides high school students, parents, guidance counselors and other stakeholders with access to basic, comparable information.

IU Kokomo is one of only six colleges and universities in the state of Indiana to take part in the College Portrait project at this time. IU Kokomo's information can be viewed at www.iuk.edu and by clicking on College Portrait on the home page.

Collins Receives Distinguished Alumni Award



Lori Collins

IU Kokomo's own Lori Collins was recently honored with the 2008 Distinguished Alumni Award from the IU School of Continuing Studies Alumni Association.

Collins, an academic advisor for the School of Continuing Studies and adjunct faculty member, not only works with students pursuing their degree, but also created two classes to meet the educational needs of adult students. "College Colloquium for Returning Adult Students" and "Introduction to Computers and Their Use" are offered through the ACCElERated Evening College.

In addition to her work on campus, she is also involved with the Kokomo Urban Outreach, a group that feeds, clothes and ministers to the underprivileged. As part of her volunteer efforts, Collins coordinated a group of volunteers who collected and refurbished old computers, then provided computer training to Kokomo Urban Outreach's clients.

This award is presented annually to a School of Continuing Studies graduate who has provided outstanding service to the public and IU.

Video Production Class Celebrates IU

Students enrolled in the video production class are participating in the university-wide competition on how and why students celebrate Indiana University.

About 15 students are creating 30- to 60- second videos that will be judged on creativity and how students truly feel about IU, rather than a "professional" approach to video production.

Cash prizes will be awarded for the top three videos and featured on the Celebrate IU Web site. Winners will be announced on October 22.

Calendar of Events

Now thru October 16

Fine Arts Faculty in Action at IU Kokomo
IU Kokomo Art Gallery

October 15

Michael Palascak
6 p.m.
Kelley Student Center
Commons

October 18

Staff Council
"Make Your Own Scarecrow"

Visit www.iuk.edu/events for details.

11 a.m.–4 p.m.

Farlow's Orchard

October 20–November 19

Writing on the Walls
IU Kokomo Art Gallery

October 21

IU vs. Purdue Blood Donor
Challenge
Noon–6 p.m.
Kelley Student Center

October 24

Halloween Open House
6–8 p.m., Trick-or-Treating
5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.,
Movie Showing
Alumni Hall

November 8

IU Kokomo Staff Council
17th Annual Arts and Crafts
Show
9 a.m.–3 p.m.
Kelley Student Center

November 11 and 12

Caricature Artist
10 a.m.–2 p.m.
Alumni Hall

November 18

Project Linus
9 a.m.–5 p.m.
Alumni Hall