

Murtadha Named Outstanding Woman of the Year

The Center for Leadership Development presented Khaula Murtadha, professor in Educational Leadership at the IU School of Education at IUPUI and executive associate dean from 2001 through 2007, with the Mme. C.J. Walker Outstanding Woman of the Year Award during the 28th Annual Minority Business and Professional Achievers Recognition Dinner on March 17 at the Indiana Convention Center.

The award is one of the top two given by the CLD to individuals who have made “significant contributions at their place of employment and who have performed outstanding service for the betterment of the community.”

“Dr. Murtadha’s contributions to the field of education and social development have been numerous and impacting,” CLD president Dennis E. Bland said. “Her dedication and commitment resembles the spirit demonstrated by Madame Walker and she is an inspiration and role model to the hundreds of CLD participants we nurture and challenge.”

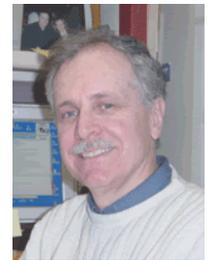


Khaula Murtadha

Lifetime Achievement Award for Lester

The Mathematics Education Trust of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) has awarded a lifetime achievement award to Frank Lester, Chancellor’s Professor of education and professor of mathematics education and cognitive science at IU Bloomington. Lester picked up the “Lifetime Achievement Award for Distinguished Service to Mathematics Education Award” at the NCTM Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City April 10.

NCTM members voted to award Lester the honor for a career that started in 1972 at IU. “Frank has demonstrated that a teacher educator and curriculum developer can also do carefully conceptualized, competently conducted research,” wrote one nominator. “He remains one of an unfortunately too small group of mathematics educators who can claim to be both an eminent practitioner and first-rate researcher.”



Frank Lester

Among his most noted achievements is the Handbook of Research on Mathematics Teaching and Learning. Last year, he edited an update to the groundbreaking handbook published 16 years ago. Lester retires after the spring semester.

More Faculty Awards

The American Educational Research Association (AERA) awarded Chancellor’s Professor of Higher Education George Kuh with the AERA-Division J Exemplary Research Award on March 27. AERA presents the award to “an individual who demonstrates an outstanding record of scholarly research in our field.”

Professor of counseling and counseling education, Keith Morran, is the Outstanding Administrator of the Year as selected by the Indiana Counseling Association. Morran heads the Counseling and Counselor Education Program at the IU School of Education at IUPUI. The association presented the award at its conference April 21.

The International Reading Association has awarded assistant professor of language education Karen Wohlwend the Dissertation of the Year Award. The Association presented the award at the annual conference in Atlanta.

Students Organize 1st Professional Development Event

The first-ever “Looking at Exemplary Work & More” conference at the School of Education in Bloomington on Friday, April 4, proved a success for student presenters and other attendees. The campus chapter of the Indiana Student Education Association (ISEA) steered by chapter President Lizzy Sawyer and Treasurer Kerry Leuschel organized the event.

The conference gave 61 undergraduate students a chance to present work from a variety of teacher education programs. Students also had a chance to hear from an “Exemplary Student Teacher Panel” and hear strategies for preparing for a job interview.

“We sometimes forget to call attention to the great work of our undergraduates,” said Carol-Anne Hossler, clinical associate professor of elementary education and faculty advisor to ISEA.

New School of Education Faculty

Three new faculty members began their work at the IU School of Education starting in January.

Barbara Erwin has joined the Education Leadership and Policy Studies Department at IU Bloomington as a clinical associate professor. Erwin returns to IU, where she earned her bachelor's in special education and PhD in school administration, after serving as superintendent in St. Charles, Illinois since 2004. Before taking over in St. Charles, she served as superintendent of the Scottsdale, Arizona Unified School District. She twice earned Texas Superintendent of the Year awards as the leader of the Allen, TX Independent School District between 1994 and 2000.

Alex McCormick is the new director of the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) and is an associate professor in Education Leadership and Policy Studies. McCormick was the senior scholar at The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Before joining Carnegie, he was a senior research associate at MPR Associates, an independent educational research firm. He has taught about research and policy related to postsecondary access in the School of Education at Stanford University and held administrative posts at Dartmouth College.

Kylie Pepler is an assistant professor in the Learning Sciences Department. Pepler comes from UCLA, where she earned her PhD. While at UCLA, she focused particularly on the use of arts in new media and teaching arts and other subjects in urban school environments. She has also given an invited lecture at Harvard on new media and digital literacies and delivered the keynote for the Indiana Department of Education/Indiana Association for the Gifted Conference.

IUPUI Hosts Faith and Civil Society Panel

As part of International Interfaith Initiative held their 2nd annual Symposium in March at IUPUI's Campus Center. Rob Helfenbein, IUPUI Assistant Professor of Teacher Education facilitated a panel of academics from various disciplines in a discussion focusing on language. Helfenbein said, "It came out of a realization early on in this project of how important language was and realizing that we needed to define terms"

The initiative is a collaboration between the SOE, other campus and community groups and individuals to support interfaith communication and cooperation to strengthen civil society. Other events included musical performances and a youth dialogue session with 8th grade students from religious and public schools from around Indianapolis discussing the role of faith in their lives.

First School of Education "Pathways" Grants are Announced

The IU School of Education (SOE) Dean's Office and the Research and Development Committee announced the recipients of planning grants for the first Pathways Initiative Request for Proposals and Grant Competition. Seven projects that involve 19 SOE faculty members from the Bloomington and Indianapolis campuses received up to \$5,000 to plan collaborative projects with Pathways Initiative schools.

The SOE began the Pathways Initiative to address needs in the challenged school corporations in Indianapolis, Gary, and South Bend by connecting IU expertise and resources with schools through working partnerships. In the proposed projects, SOE faculty will work collaboratively with a Pathways school to address a critical concern of that school. The grants include five new partnership proposals and continuations of two existing partnerships. The proposals all must include evidence of substantial partnering between the teachers at the school and other school administrators and IU faculty.

Awardees will have the opportunity to request up to \$40,000 for two years to further develop their projects and partnerships in stage two of the competition, "Pathways Initiative – Collaborative Project." Proposals for stage 2 are due June 1st.

SOE Alum, Teacher of the Year Visits IUPUI

Nevada's winner of the Wal Mart and Sam's Club State Teacher of the Year, a 2002 graduate of the IU School of Education at IUPUI, visited in March to share stories with pre-service teachers. "I'm no different than anybody else," said Chad Hyatt, a third grade teacher at Sandy Searles Miller Elementary School's Academy for International Studies in Las Vegas. Hyatt spoke at the monthly meeting of the Secondary Urban Educators student group. "I just got lucky and won this award," Hyatt told the crowd.



Chad Hyatt

Hyatt credited his preparation for excelling with a very diverse and poverty-stricken population at his school. Just in his sixth year of full-time teaching, he said his pre-service placements in Indianapolis schools allowed him to be ready for what he now faces.