

SAA Chronicle

The newsletter for SAC/SAA alumni



Summer 2005

A letter from the president

Greetings, SAA Alumni. I'm Kirk Walda, Student Alumni Association president for 2005–06. I'm a psychology major and LAMPer, originally from Fort Wayne, Ind. I'm proud to be a part of this student organization, not only for what we stand for today and where we are going, but for the growth and leadership SAA has seen through its history. This coming year is sure to be one of continued positive growth — we have a tremendous core of engaged and dedicated student leaders.



Kirk Walda

As a point of emphasis, I'd like to ensure that each of our countless projects and activities is focused on how and why it is beneficial for the advancement of our mission and the growth of our members. SAA is such an active group that it's important to stay focused on the goals and not be doing events just for the sake of

doing events. The other rule, of course, is that it will be a fun experience.

Throughout our larger events like Homecoming, Senior Salute, and the LeaderShape Institute, and smaller scale opportunities we offer, SAA will strive to enhance the level of involvement and input of our members — this drives not only future leadership but also organizational excellence. We already try our best to be inviting and enjoyable, but the most important benefit SAA can offer is true, engaged student involvement — it is why many of us hold IU so close to our hearts.

At the time of this letter's creation, I am in the midst of an internship with Procter & Gamble in Cincinnati. I've enjoyed the corporate challenges and the environment, but I also have been considering graduate work in organizational psychology. Without a doubt, the 2005–06 academic year will be exciting, and I'm grateful that SAA will be in the forefront of my experience.

We're glad you're staying connected — see you at the DeVault Alumni Center.

— Kirk Walda

How are today's SAA leaders spending their time?

2004–05

Activity	Occurrences
Meetings*	50
Intramurals	26
Philanthropies	26
Member activities	18
Event promotion	13
Membership promotion	13
Hosting	12
Fund-raisers	10
Campuswide events	8
Retreats	5
Total	181

* Exec and COW meetings; figure does not include area meetings



Making a difference

SAA organized or participated in 26 different philanthropic activities this year. This spring, SAA collaborated with five other student organizations to host a Tsunami Benefit Concert. Featuring IUAA-sponsored a cappella groups Straight No Chaser and Ladies First, the concert generated proceeds that were sent directly to IU alumni clubs in four affected regions.

Through bake sales, canning, and other fund-raising endeavors, SAA raised almost \$9,000 to benefit Riley Children's Hospital, American Cancer Society, Special Olympics, IU Child Care Centers, and Big Brothers/Big Sisters, to name a few.

Straight No Chaser members, from left, Sargon Isho, Andrew Landau, and Chris Ryan perform during the Tsunami Benefit Concert hosted by SAA.

David Bracho, IDS



Adviser's notebook

SAA sees positive impact on campus

While reflecting on this past year, many memorable moments come to mind — the excitement of Homecoming, the return of LeaderShape IU, and surpassing 2,000 student members.

Our organization continues to have a positive impact in many corners of campus through the dedication and com-



Sondra Inman

mitment of our student leaders.

The Alumni Association embarked on a six-month investigation of SAA through a Student Study Task Force.

The report was submitted to IUAA

President and CEO Ken Beckley in May. I invite you to review the report at www.indiana.edu/~saa/docs/finalreport.pdf for more details on the ideas generated for the continued improvement of our student programs.

Enjoy the summer 2005 edition of the *SAA Chronicle!*

— Sondra Inman

Finding the funds

The Finals Survival Kit sales have remained steady over the past several years and continue to be a good fund-raiser for SAA. Growing in sales is the Indiana University Official Ring Collection. SAA receives a royalty from each ring sold, and our student volunteers help staff a ring information table for one week each semester. In the spring, SAA hosts the ring ceremony, during which each recipient is handed his or her ring from IU administration. For more information on the Indiana University Official Ring Collection, visit www.indiana.edu/~saa/official_ring.html.



LeaderShape returns to IU

SAA hosted the six-day intensive leadership development program, LeaderShape, in January at Bradford Woods. Fifty-three students attended, representing five IU campuses. Through successful fund raising and the generosity of the Chancellor's Office, Procter & Gamble, IU Foundation, and IUAA, plans are well under way for 2006 and beyond. Of the 22 members on SAA's Committee of the Whole, 12 are LeaderShape graduates. If you would like more information on the LeaderShape program and teaching young adults to *lead with integrity*, visit www.leadershape.org.



Chadon Photography

SAA members who participated in LeaderShape in January are, from left, front: Sean Cork; seated: Colleen McCullough (IUPUI), Jason Russ, Kristen King, Nicole Pollard; standing: Sarah Maddrell, Mark Warner, Kirk Walda, Adam Basey; back: Rachel Tudor, R. David Frantzreb, Rachel Cruse (IPFW), Sarah Myers, and Claudia Rhye.

Staff changes at the SAA

We extend our congratulations to former SAA departmental secretary Erin Bottorff, who recently became the alumni affairs coordinator for SPEA. We will miss her innovative ideas, outstanding customer service, and willingness to assist.

We welcome our new SAA departmental secretary, Nastassia Belton, who just completed her BGS at IUB and joins the staff with more than four years of student office experience with the African American Arts Institute.

SAA membership continues to grow

More than 2,000 students were annual members of SAA for the 2004–05 academic year. For the \$10 annual membership fee, students receive a discount card good at 18 area retailers and an IU T-shirt. Plus, members receive a monthly e-newsletter inviting them to participate in SAA programs and events.

Each semester, SAA leaders plan a members-only event. This fall, students competed in Laser Lite Tag, followed by an ice cream social at the DeVault Alumni Center. For the spring semester event, members were invited to an ice-skating party at a local rink.

Active membership (students who regularly attend meetings and help plan programs and events) is steady at around 125. We send a weekly e-newsletter (COW minutes) to our active members.

GA's corner

Time flies when you're truly involved

I can't believe another year has passed. It seems like only yesterday I was in my undergraduate M118 class, and now I am in my last year of graduate school. With



Mark Warner

the ups and downs of juggling classes, projects, and good friends graduating and moving away, one thing has remained constant over these past five years — the Student Alumni Association. It is important for SAA/SAC alumni to reach out and let the current students know their efforts have an impact. If you're interested in getting more involved, please contact me. (See related article *SAA Alumni Volunteers Needed*).

Last year, I mentioned that the leaders we had were an outstanding group. I hate to repeat myself, but the 2005–06 Committee of the Whole is shaping up to be very similar. Rejuvenated and reorganized programs that follow the SAA mission and an excited, eager Executive Board help to secure and convey the rich history that SAA/SAC has had in developing great leaders while serving our beloved institution. Thanks for all of your past (and future) dedication to SAA.

— Mark Warner



Stop by for Homecoming, Big Red Warm-ups

There is renewed excitement in Bloomington for Hoosier football. SAA leaders will host open houses at the DeVault Alumni Center two hours prior to each home game, including Homecoming weekend. We are enhancing the events this year with live music, more food, and

special guests to create a fun and festive atmosphere. Hope to see you there!

In addition, SAA will host Big Red Warm-ups at the DeVault Alumni Center prior to at least two home basketball games. Check the SAA Web site for details and come on by.



2005–06 SAA Executive Board members are, from left, front: President Kirk Walda, Vice President Sarah Myers; back: vice presidents Wyatt Milstein, Ben Blotsky, Jason Russ, and Adam Russ.

Recognizing our best — students and faculty

Congratulations go to outgoing SAA president D'Andre May for his collection of awards this past year that included the Kenneth R.R. Gros Louis Scholarship, the Jerry F. Tardy Memorial Scholarship, and the Elvis J. Stahr Senior Recognition Award. May returns to Bloomington this fall to complete his MS degree in information systems.

Incoming SAA president Kirk Walda

was recently selected as this year's Kenneth R.R. Gros Louis Scholar. Established in 2003 in honor of Gros Louis's remarkable service to IU, this prestigious award is given annually to a senior with demonstrated academic excellence, leadership in student activities, and a distinguished record of service as a good university citizen. We are quite proud that in the three-year history of the award, the SAA

president has won twice. It is a fitting testament to the caliber of students who lead SAA.

In addition to recognizing the recipients of the Stahr award, the Spring Recognition Banquet honored the following distinguished faculty recipients of the Student Choice Award: Michael Molenda, Mehmet Dalkilic, Phil Carspecken, Irene Vlachos-Weber, and Zaineb Istrabadi.



ABOVE: IUB Chancellor Kenneth R.R. Gros Louis with 2004–05 SAA president D'Andre May. RIGHT: Spring 2005 Student Choice Awards recipients are, from left, Michael Molenda, Mehmet Dalkilic, Phil Carspecken, and Irene Vlachos-Weber. Not pictured: Zaineb Istrabadi.



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Alumni notebook

1980s

Sara Merrick Hollin, BS'80, works for Auctor Corp. in Indianapolis. She married Dana R. Hollin on Oct. 21, 2004, and they live in Fishers, Ind.

Donald J. Vogel, BS'81, JD'85, of Chicago, was elected first vice president of the Transportation Lawyers Association at the organization's annual meeting on May 12.

Erick D. Ponader, BA'82, JD'85, a partner/director for Sommer Barnard Attorneys, served as vice president of the Indianapolis Bar Association's business law section for 2004–05. He lives in Indianapolis.

1990s

Christina Jakuc O'Dell, BA'90, writes, "My husband, Dee, and I reside in Charlotte, N.C., with three daughters — Alexanne, Clayton, and Whitney — all under age 4. Friends can contact us at christinaodell@carolina.rr.com."

Julie D. (Price) Sidhu, BA'91, and her husband, Jasmel, welcomed a son, Gavin Singh, on Feb. 1, 2003, the Chi-

nese New Year. Gavin is their first child. Sidhu lives in Phoenix and can be reached at julieprice53@yahoo.com.

Will Clemens, BA'93, is program officer for KnowledgeWorks Foundation, the largest not-for-profit organization dedicated to education in Ohio. He writes, "One of my tasks is to use Microsoft SharePoint to archive and/or share the foundation's history and digital and traditional storytelling to seek perspectives on student voices about our work." He lives in Cincinnati and can be reached at wmclemens@aol.com.

Tami Shields Silverman, BS'93, of Springfield, Ill., is executive director of Sojourn Shelter and Services, which assists victims of domestic violence, and was named the local not-for-profit business director of the year. She and her husband, Ross D. Silverman, BA'92, have two children: Miranda, 3, and Maxwell, 1.

Leslie Smith Babione, BA'96, is director of communications for the Great Lakes division of the American Cancer Society. She lives in Indianapolis and can be reached at lesasmit@yahoo.com.

Robert A. Harber, BS'96, is a client relationship manager with Fidelity Investments. He and his wife, Tara, have a son, Riley Atticus, who was born on Dec. 21, 2004. Harber has performed with the band Five Hundy (www.fivehundyc.com) throughout the Midwest. The Fort Thomas, Ky., resident can be reached at rharber@fuse.net.

Donald S. Lukes, BS'97, MBA'03, is CBP finance manager for Citizens Gas. He and his wife, **Nicole (Tapak)**, BS'96, live in Indianapolis.

Patricia L. (Roder) Burchette, BSN'98, and her husband, Brett, BS'97, welcomed their first child on Dec. 25, 2004. They live in Natick, Mass., just outside Boston, and can be reached at BrettBurchette@msn.com.

Lisa J. Kohnke, BA'98, is special assistant to U.S. Rep. Kendrick B. Meek of Florida. She lives in Arlington, Va., and can be reached at lkohnke@hotmail.com.

Joseph D. Pollaro, BS'98, and **Tarah Smith Pollaro**, CBusF'98, BS'00, live in Nashville, Tenn., where he is completing an MBA at Vanderbilt University and she works in public relations for Yamaha Artist Relations.

2000s

Neesha S. Patel, BA/BS'01, JD'04, graduated from the IU School of Law–Indianapolis and is a public defender in the Juvenile Division of the Marion County (Ind.) Public Defender Agency. She has been admitted to the Indiana Bar. The Indianapolis resident can be reached at nespattel2004@yahoo.com.

SAA alumni: We need your help!

Some fellow SAA alumni are working toward the creation of an affiliate group. In order to be officially recognized by the IU Alumni Association, the affiliate group must meet certain criteria. If you are interested in helping with the formation of this group, please contact any of the following:

- Daniel Coons, dmcoons@indiana.edu, current director of programming and alumni relations
- Mark Warner, mwarner@indiana.edu, BS'04, 2004–05 vice president of special events
- Patricia Surfus, psurfus@indiana.edu, BS'03, 2001–02 president

Connecting students and alumni

Co-sponsored by the Monroe County Chapter of the IU Alumni Association, SAA plans an etiquette dinner each semester. The tutorials, held in the IMU Federal Room, are facilitated by Audrey Beckley and Ann Hyer and include a five-course formal meal. Alumni and corporate sponsors host each table.

With a new format and a new name, the former Student-Alumni Career Day successfully transformed into Networking Night 2005. Held in the DeVault Alumni Center, the evening began with dinner for our visiting alumni panelists, SAA leaders, and staff from the Career Development Center. Following dinner, students from across campus came to participate in one of six different panels to hear from alumni on a variety of career issues and get advice for their own career search. The evening concluded with a mix-and-mingle dessert reception. The event drew more than 80 students and alumni.



Facilitator Ann Hyer answers student questions at an Etiquette Dinner in the Federal Room of the Indiana Memorial Union.

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Last name while at IU _____

IU Degree(s)/Yr(s) _____

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Attach additional pages if necessary. Mail to the address above, or fax to (812) 855-8266.

SAA Chronicle

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