

Take Five

February 15, 2021

The News in Academic Affairs



We are fortunate to work in a profession where purpose is manifest. Purpose is a rich source of both motivation and fulfillment, and educators have it in spades. After all, we empower people to achieve their potential. That's heady stuff. In her book on "grit," which she defines as a combination of "passion and perseverance," psychologist Angela Duckworth devotes an entire chapter to purpose, which she defines as "the intention to contribute to the well-being of others." Talking about purpose, one of the many high achievers Duckworth mentions in her book said something that really resonated with me and could be a motto for our experiences with students: "When I am around people," Kat wrote, "my heart and soul radiate with the awareness that I am in the presence of greatness. Maybe greatness unfound, or greatness underdeveloped, but the potential or existence of greatness nevertheless." I believe every one of our students possesses such potential, and we are blessed to have the opportunity to help them achieve that greatness. ● IU Kokomo's Office of Sustainability offers grants to support projects that "protect and improve natural resources, society, cultural heritage, and/or ethics." The deadline for applications is February 22. For more information, email emmawats@iu.edu or visit [this webpage](#).

Student Success Corner

While all student feedback on the Student Engagement Roster is valuable, "Irregular attendance" deserves special attention. A recent dive into the SER data revealed that this is one of the strongest midterm predictors of course failure, withdrawal, and failure to persist. If you have a student who doesn't consistently attend class, please mark this. Now that we know its high predictive value, we'll be working extra hard to reach students tagged in this way. Christina Downey (downeyca@iuk.edu)



Webinar:
Talking Black
"Race and Civic Engagement"

Wednesday 2/17
4 to 5 p.m.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Check MCC Facebook page for more info.

The Black Student Center, part of IU Kokomo's Multicultural Center, invites you to its first Black Table Talk on the topic of "Race and Civic Engagement" at 4 p.m. February 17. All are welcome to a panel discussion with businessman and IU Kokomo alum Bob Hayes; Willie Stroman, president of the Kokomo Chapter of Indiana Black Expo; Precious Majors, local pastor and program advisor for the IUB Hudson and Holland Scholars Program; Dana Black, local activist and information technology specialist; Lonnie E. Anderson, Jr., senior pastor of Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church and former executive director of F.D. Reese Christian Academy; and activist and businesswoman DeAndra Beard. Join the event to learn more about civic engagement in the Kokomo area and state. Click [here](#) to register.

Upcoming Events

- 2/15: [LGBTQ+ Center Table](#) (10 a.m.-noon, Alumni Hall)
 - 2/15: Student Engagement Roster Listening Session (3:30 p.m., [online](#))
 - 2/15: [LGBTQ+ Center Discussion of Pose](#) (5:30 p.m., online)
 - 2/16: [Career Readiness: Communication*](#) (10 a.m., online)
 - 2/16: [LGBTQ+ Center Table](#) (10 a.m., Alumni Hall)
 - 2/16: [Using VoiceThread to Engage Students](#) (1:30 p.m., online)
 - 2/17: [Zoom: Basics & Office Hours](#) (9 a.m., online)
 - 2/17: [Virtual Speed Interviews*](#) (11 a.m., online)
 - 2/17: [LGBTQ+ Center Table](#) (1-3 p.m., Alumni Hall)
 - 2/17: [Black Table Talk: Race and Civic Engagement](#) (4 p.m., online)
 - 2/18: [Canvas Outcomes for General Education Courses](#) (11 a.m., online)
 - 2/18: BLT: Test Anxiety (noon, online)
 - 2/18: [Virtual Speed Interviews*](#) (1 p.m., online)
 - 2/18: [Moonlight Film Showing](#) (5:30 p.m., online)
 - 2/19: [Qualtrics 3: Reports](#) (2 p.m., online)
 - 2/19: [NSF CAREER Workshop Series Part I: Early Planning Information Session](#) (10 a.m., Zoom)
- Some events may require registration. Click on links for details.

Kudos for Kokomojo

- Let's hear it for Beth Barnett, who spoke about mental health for the [February 5 IU Research podcast](#).