



# foundations

New Rehab Sciences Masters Programs | Bicentennial Campaign Successes | Civics in Action  
Spring 2021



# LIFTING UP

LOCAL SCHOLARS

# A MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR

WELCOME TO THE SPRING 2021 ISSUE OF *FOUNDATIONS* MAGAZINE.

Rarely has a spring been more welcome than this one, as we look forward to emerging from the winter with fewer COVID cases, more community members vaccinated, and renewed hope for the future. By the time you read this issue of *Foundations*, I'm optimistic that spring will be in full bloom as a visual celebration of that hope!

As we usher in the spring, IU South Bend has much good news to share: we are planning an in-person, outdoor commencement ceremony for Wednesday, May 12 and our fall 2021 semester will be in person, with mostly normal operations expected. We have weathered the storm of this pandemic well because everyone in the IUSB community followed the guidance of IU medical experts. Throughout the year, positivity rates of employees and students have been and continue to be low. And, the pace of vaccine distribution is encouraging. Even with all this great news, it is likely that some health and safety precautions will remain in place for some time. We will continuously review our operations to keep safety as our top priority.

More welcome tidings arrived with the news that the Community Foundation of St. Joseph County received a \$4 million grant from the Lilly Endowment to promote Indiana's 21st Century Scholar program. IU South Bend is a critical partner in this program and beneficiary of this funding; check out the story inside. Also inside, you will find a celebration of all the support we received during the For All Bicentennial Campaign. Thank you for the part you played in this campaign, which has strengthened our ability to fulfill our mission as this region's public university. I hope you will read with interest other stories in this issue that illustrate how we do this: by providing students with needed federal financial assistance, offering two new graduate programs in the advanced health sciences at our Elkhart Center, and engaging people across our region in civic outreach and debate through our award-winning American Democracy Project. Finally, we feature alumnus Andre Anderson's story of service and creativity as an outstanding example of the power of an IUSB education.

This semester, we also welcomed two new leaders: Carolyn Kasdorf joins us as the Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance and Dr. Jill Pearson is the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. We are pleased to have two outstanding leaders join the university!

Spring is definitely in the air!

With Hoosier Spirit and Titan Pride,

Susan Elrod | Chancellor



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*COVER: Greetings from some of the more than 300 21st Century Scholars who attend IU South Bend. The campus looks forward to being home to more scholars thanks to the support of a new Lilly Endowment grant.*



## foundations

*Foundations* magazine is published bi-annually through a joint effort between the Office of Alumni Relations and the Office of Communications and Marketing at Indiana University South Bend. The magazine covers a wide range of campus news and activities, faculty and student research, and community engagement, among other topics.

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### STAY IN TOUCH!

We are always looking for fresh ideas to cover in the magazine. Visit our website to give general feedback, send comments about a specific feature, suggest a story idea, contribute an article, update your mailing address, or share a class note.

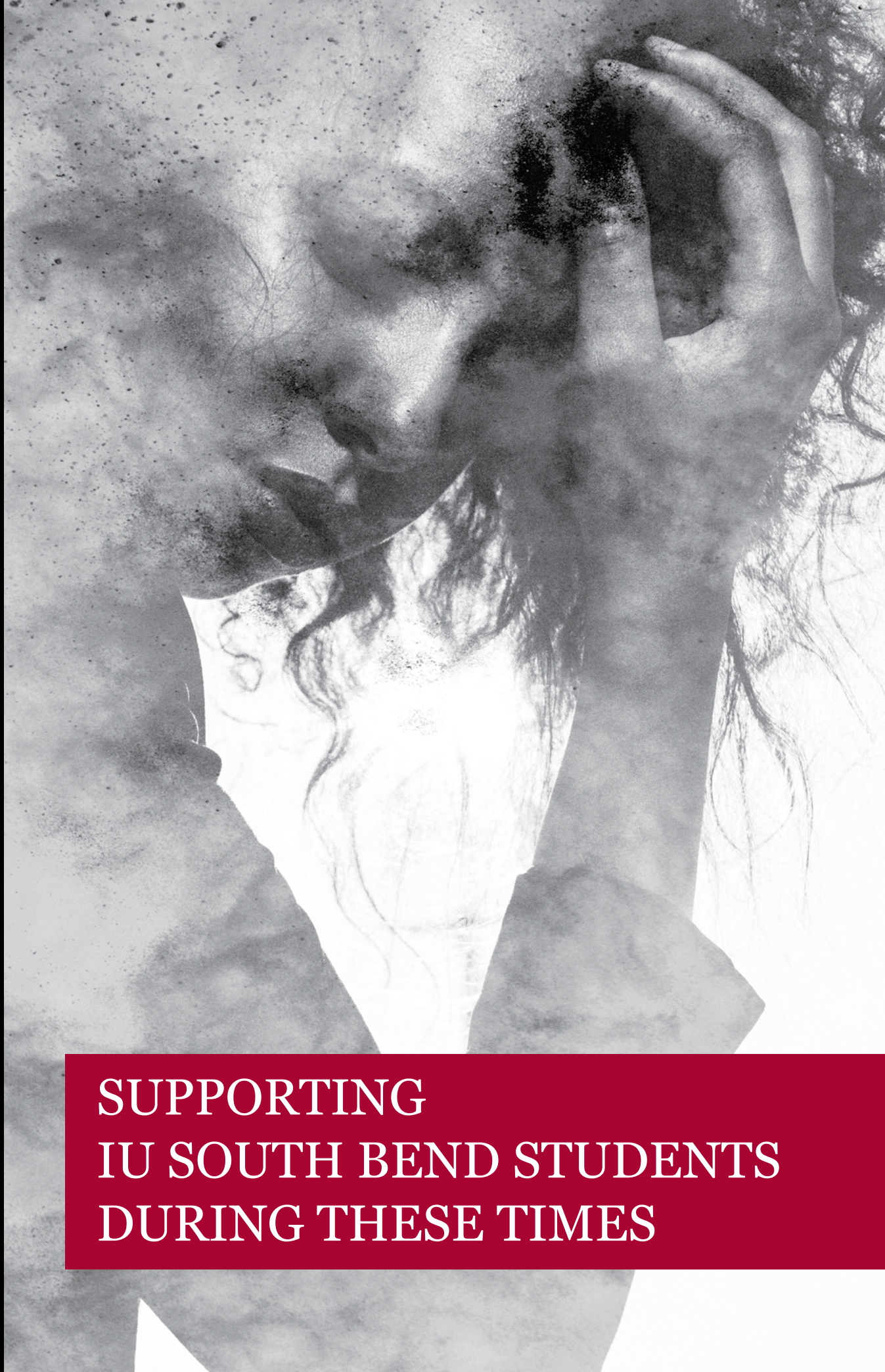
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**RACIAL JUSTICE COVID**

**POLITICAL UPHEAVAL climate crisis**



**SUPPORTING  
IU SOUTH BEND STUDENTS  
DURING THESE TIMES**

**ATTENDING COLLEGE** under normal circumstances is a challenge, especially for those who are simultaneously working to pay for tuition or support family members, as many IU South Bend students do. And attending college during a pandemic? Consider them multiplied. Students were asked to adjust to not only quickly-shifting expectations and changes to nearly every aspect of life but also navigate health, educational, and financial concerns.

“Despite the - at times overwhelming - economic issues and anxieties, I think our students have really stepped up,” said Anne Drake, director of the Office of Disability Support Services and a member of the Student Affairs and Diversity team. “They’ve upped their game and are doing what they need to do to be successful. We’ve asked a lot of the students, and they’ve responded. A lot of the credit goes to them.”

Staff have responded to these needs as well. When IU South Bend received \$4.5 million in May from the federal CARES Act to assist students experiencing hardships caused by the pandemic, Kevin Griffith and his colleagues on the CARES Act Committee coordinated a process to distribute those dollars and respond to needs. University CARES Act allocations were divided in two: half to be distributed directly to students, half to be used by the institution for costs related to COVID-19 disruption. Griffith, who is the associate vice chancellor of Student Affairs and the executive director of the Student Counseling Center, said fall semester saw an average of 40 requests a week for needs as varied as health care, child care, rent, auto repairs, or the extra costs for studying remotely. The spring semester saw double the number of requests from last semester.

“Student financial needs are great,” he said. “The amount of money that a student could receive was initially \$750. We’ve upped that to \$1,000. We’re going to up it to \$1,500, because even those dollar amounts are only making a dent in many students’ needs.”

Most of the \$2.25 million intended to go directly to students was automatically awarded to 3,203 students by June 9. These Emergency Financial Aid Grants of up to \$900 were allotted to students who met certain federal eligibility requirements, one of which was to have a Free Application for Federal Student Aid form on file with the university. Those receiving the grant weren’t required to pay it back and it won’t impact their student financial aid packages.

Students reported that the funding was helpful and timely, addressing a variety of difficulties related to the pandemic.

Some found themselves unemployed and struggling to pay tuition and other bills. Others reported having to support family members who were struggling themselves with job loss or additional needs. Some commented that the funds lessened concern about money so they could manage to still be successful in coursework.

The Student Counseling Center wasn’t surprised to see the need for its services increase, given the hardships students face. Griffith reported that the Center had fewer no shows, with 96 percent of students keeping their appointments, and that students and staff adjusted to the telehealth environment. However, counseling requests this spring are down from last semester, a likely effect of Zoom fatigue.

As the Center explores ways to ensure it is supporting student mental health, a new grant from IU’s Office of Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs will fund a counselor for a two-year period centered on the needs of Black and LatinX students. This grant is a welcome addition in light of the recent heightened attention to racial and social justice.

“Students have told us we don’t always have a counselor who looks like a large portion of our student body,” Griffith said.

The online learning environment proved to be a barrier for the more than 300 students requesting assistance from Anne Drake in Disability Support Services.

“We had to rethink how we managed the majority of our student accommodations,” she said. “Hard-of-hearing students, those

with learning disabilities or anxiety: they all got through it but it was a struggle.”

The Housing and Residence Life team was challenged to come up with ways to engage students, offer a welcoming atmosphere, and build a sense of community while still keeping everyone safe. As the pandemic wears on and students are “virtually Zoomed out,” staff members are working to become even more creative.

“We had 200 people attend our pumpkin patch event in the fall and we’d like to do more socially distanced, safe programming,” said Jacob Zell, residence coordinator.

The university’s COVID management offered peace of mind for those few students who contracted the coronavirus as well as those who didn’t. River Crossing housing units are provided to those needing to isolate, with staff delivering three meals a day and assisting with laundry. IU’s free mitigation testing gives students (as well as staff and faculty) reassurance, and the recently expanded evening hours of operation increased availability for students needing flexibility.

As the pandemic enters its second year, the likelihood of students needing help will continue.

IUSB offers support via the campus food pantry, Emergency Relief scholarships, Titans Mentoring Titans peer mentoring program, and even in the form of faculty members sending handwritten notes to first-year students during midterms. Now is the moment when the heartwarming personal touch afforded students at a regional campus like IUSB makes all the difference.

# Meeting the Demand

DWYER COLLEGE OF HEALTH  
SCIENCES LAUNCHES TWO NEW  
GRADUATE PROGRAMS



*Opposite page, staff photo: Occupational  
Therapy faculty (l-r Allison Miller, Dr. Sharon  
Pape, and Dr. Denise Henderson) and therapy  
dog Maddie in the Elkhart Center.*

**IN 2015** when IU South Bend leaders and partners assessed the high-demand health careers in the Michiana region, the results were clear: speech language pathologists were needed most, with occupational therapists a close second. In fact, one area hospital system reported a 9-to-12 month waiting list of patients in need of these services.

Around the same time, the Vera Z. Dwyer Charitable Trust, with an interest in supporting the advanced health sciences, partnered with IU South Bend on a donation agreement that named the College of Health Sciences and led to scholarships and other support. With this infusion of growth and backing, leaders set out to create new graduate programs to fill the local demand for speech and occupational therapists.

Now, the two programs are on track to earn accreditation and admit their first graduate student cohorts to begin their coursework this fall at the IU South Bend Elkhart Center.

In developing the program, Thomas Fisher, dean of the Vera Z. Dwyer College of Health Sciences, and the new program directors knew they wanted to create programs that embed the inter-professional practice and education (IPE) collaborative approach

from the outset, a foundational piece that reflects real-world clinical team work.

Jennifer Essig, clinical assistant professor and the founding director of the graduate program in speech language pathology, describes herself as a practitioner at heart; she saw in her experience in a medical setting how critical it was to understand the roles of nurses, occupational therapists, physical therapists, physicians, and social workers and work together for patient outcomes.

"I've never been an island in terms of my clinical care," she said.

"We're interdependent on each other. We really want our learners to understand and embrace that," said Dr. Sharon Pape, clinical associate professor and program director of the graduate program in occupational therapy. "We learn and we practice inter-professionally. What's different here is that we're doing this from the start. It becomes infused in both programs, then within our College."

"In the field, whether [students] end up practicing in the community, medical, or education model, they'll work with each other, so to understand from the start of their formal professional education is foundational for their knowledge and development as therapists. Being intentional just makes it easier for the students to integrate into practice," said Dean Fisher.

Program directors have rooted opportunities for this in their curricula. For example, speech and occupational therapy students will take a joint neuroanatomy course, learning with and from each other, building in cross-disciplinary action. In their dysphagia course (a swallowing disorders course), speech language pathology students will learn the instrumental evaluation of a barium swallow study with Dwyer College radiography students, a real-world situation in an X-ray suite that both programs' students will someday need to apply.

The programs are in the process of securing accreditation with the Council on Academic Accreditation for Audiology and Speech Language Pathology (SLP) and the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education. One of the steps in the process was a campus site visit for the SLP accreditation committees, which happened virtually due to COVID.

The site visitors, all of whom are faculty at other programs around the country, were impressed and recognized that having the IPE approach as the vision from the beginning eases its application into the curriculum. Site reviewers applauded this approach and commented that as they go around the country doing the site visits, they're not seeing this sort of integration from the outset.

Program leaders stress that the interprofessional approach is built in not only with the new graduate programs and the other health professions, like nursing or radiography, but also with IU South Bend's students in the schools of education and social work, who might someday work with OT or speech professionals.



“We want to infuse community investment into the program: the importance of our partners and of giving back to the community.”

–Dr. Sharon Pape

“The circles keep on widening, which is awesome,” said Essig. “The dream is being realized. I’m pretty excited about that.”

Another unique aspect of these new programs in the advanced health sciences: community support. Area schools, health care sites, and community agencies are excited to see these programs added to the local landscape. They have a need to add to their workforce, and prospective students who want to stay and practice in Michiana are interested in these programs.

“There are a number of SLP applicants who’ve been waiting for the opportunity to attend their regional campus to stay in the community they’re already invested in,” said Essig.

Plus IU South Bend’s partnership with clinics like HealthLinc expand this community engagement.

HealthLinc conducts hundreds of well child visits a month at its sites. Now speech or OT graduate students could be afforded multiple opportunities for practice with parent child groups, early intervention, assessments, playgroups, and screenings.

“We want to infuse community investment into the program: the



importance of our partners and of giving back to the community,” said Dr. Pape. “We hope graduates will then take that back into the community where they’re going to be employed and remember us and that relationship, and promote it. We have the opportunity to do tremendous community outreach affecting daily lives.”

Students and faculty will also have state of the art classroom and laboratory space in IU South Bend’s recently renovated Elkhart Center, thanks to funding from the Community Foundation of Elkhart County. The speech language pathology clinic space houses a primary working room containing intervention materials, diagnostic equipment, and a collaborative learning space. The occupational therapy laboratory spaces include a sensory motor room and a room dedicated to activities of daily living, complete with a working kitchen, bath, and laundry.

Both programs are on track to admit students to their first cohort of 15 starting in August 2021.

“The smaller cohort size is another unique advantage to IUSB’s programs,” said Essig. “This helps those who have been out of school for a while readjust to course work more easily, develop closer relationships with faculty, and enjoy more personalized help.”





# Once a Titan **ALWAYS A TITAN**

**No matter where life takes us,  
IU South Bend will always be a  
part of our story.**

It's where we made lifelong friends, discovered our passions, and created lasting memories. With more than 36,000 alumni in our IU South Bend network, and the benefit of connecting with our extended IU family of more than 700,000 grads from all IU campuses, it's your chance to establish your lifelong connection to IU. Your member contribution is 100% tax deductible as a charitable contribution and we offer joint recognition for spouses or partners.

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*Pursuing his*  
**PASSION**

ALUM LEADS TWO REMARKABLE CAREERS  
AS A POET AND CLINICAL PRACTITIONER

**“IT ALL STARTED AT IU SOUTH BEND,”** said Andre Anderson, '99, BA Psychology. “It was my academic, spiritual, and performance wake-up call.”

While an undergraduate at IU South Bend, Anderson, a spoken word artist, signed a recording contract with Pinnacle Entertainment in Nashville—recording “Say a Little Prayer” on *The Pinnacle Project Bricks to Straw* album.

As a student, he won first place for his speech, “Poetry: Entertain, Heal and Educate,” in the 1997 IU South Bend Speech Night competition.

Moreover, his passion for the spoken word led Anderson to help organize the first Poetry Jam at IU South Bend in 1997, an event initiated by then Director of Campus Diversity Charlotte Pfeifer and Professor of Psychology and Director of the Social Action Project Dé Bryant, in response to President Bill Clinton’s National Conversation on Race initiative. The Poetry Jam, held in Wiekamp Hall, featured poets from all the area high schools and colleges, as well as a jazz band. “Poetry is a universal language,” Anderson said. “More than 200 people attended the event.”

After graduating from IU South Bend, Anderson moved to Nashville.

He wrote the lyrics and performed the spoken words in a nationally ranked ad produced by Pinnacle Entertainment’s Marc Harris and Ava Hall, both South Bend natives, in honor of Black History Month in 2003.

Today, he still performs in Nashville at venues throughout the city that his pastor, Joseph W. Walker III, organizes, as well as at events associated with the National Museum of African American Music.

Nevertheless, Anderson’s engagement with IU South Bend didn’t end when he graduated and moved to Nashville. In 2005, he received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the IU South Bend Alumni Association. In 2017, he participated in the 20th anniversary of the Poetry Jam, which now continues as an annual open mic event held at the Civil Rights Heritage Center. He still engages regularly with Associate Professor of History Monica Tetzloff, who led a Freedom Summer study group to Nashville where Anderson was a guest, and Professor of Psychology Dé Bryant.



“I am intentionally an Indiana University Alumni Association (IUAA) Life Member,” Anderson noted. “I encourage all my fellow alums to join, leaving IU South Bend a tad better than we found it.”

As part of an initiative at IU South Bend to foster conversations about racial inequity, IU South Bend Chancellor Susan Elrod reached out to Anderson and other successful African-American alumni to hear their stories. “It meant the world to me,” Anderson said. “Thank you for creating and nurturing these new initiatives.”

Today, the board-certified behavior analyst, who earned his master in clinical psychology from Fisk University, works with children with autism and lives with his wife and four children in Nashville.

Anderson is as passionate about his work as a clinical practitioner as he is about his spoken word endeavors. In addition to working as an applied behavior analyst for Sprout Therapy, he also consults with social skills programs targeting children on the spectrum who do not have insurance, and works with colleagues across the country on a peer-reviewed journal, *Journal of Behavior, Language, Ethics and Culture*.

“There are no approved black colleges with ABA programs,” Anderson shared. “This journal brings behavior analysts from different cultures to represent all demographics.”

It’s important for children with autism and their families to feel comfortable with the clinicians who enter their homes. “Clinicians enter people’s homes and help parents unlearn and relearn behaviors that will help their children with social engagement and communication,” he explained. “It’s vital that the family can trust and connect with the clinician. It can be more difficult if the clinician doesn’t look like them or understand their culture.”

As he reflected on his remarkable career, Anderson said, “I had to be a poet, and I had to be a clinical practitioner in order to make some type of headway in this industry. Ironically,” he noted, “April is National Autism Month and National Poetry Month—my two passions.”

# THIRD CENTURY

## IU SOUTH BEND DONORS SHOW STRONG SUPPORT FOR CAMPUS' MISSION IN BICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

**FOR ALL: THE INDIANA UNIVERSITY BICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN** raised nearly \$3.9 billion with IU South Bend's contribution of almost \$32 million over eight years, showing strong donor support for IU South Bend's mission.

"The gifts provided high-impact dollars that can be used immediately to support important initiatives at IU South Bend," said Interim Vice Chancellor for University Relations Tom Stevick.

**T**he Vera Z. Dwyer College of Health Sciences and the Judd Leighton School of Business and Economics were both named during the Bicentennial Campaign with gifts totaling over \$12 million. The naming gifts to the college and the school provide enhanced resources for students and faculty, including significant scholarship support for students. The Vera Z. Dwyer College of Health Sciences gift also created and endowed the Bicentennial Distinguished Chair of Palliative Care, held by Dr. Bunmi Okanlami, and the Distinguished Chair of Nursing. In addition, it also provided funds to create the recently approved Palliative and Supportive Care Minor.

"This act of generosity has elevated the Dwyer College of Health Sciences, allowing us to attract outstanding faculty and students in healthcare, to expand our graduate programs, and to educate our students and other healthcare providers about best practices in palliative care for those with chronic diseases," said Dwyer College Dean Thomas Fisher.

Likewise, a generous naming gift from the Judd Leighton Foundation to the Judd Leighton School of Business and Economics significantly enhanced scholarship support for undergraduate students and fellowships for graduate students. In addition to student support, the gift provides funds for faculty teaching and research activities.

The gift also provided funds to add two staff positions: a retention specialist to develop and coordinate freshman-year programming to improve student persistence and graduation rates, as well as an experiential learning coordinator to assist students with career development, internships, co-ops, field projects, and service learning opportunities.

"We truly are deeply grateful for this extraordinarily generous gift and for the transformative impact it has had on the IU South Bend Judd Leighton School of Business and Economics and all of its students," said Interim Dean Tracey Anderson. "This generous gift supports the Leighton School, creating opportunities that lead to student success in their education and future lives."

Other named gifts during this campaign enhanced campus facilities and student learning and instructional spaces, including:

- Hammes Bookstore
- Louise E. Addicott and Yatish J. Joshi Performance Hall
- Schurz Creative Lab
- Torres Family Data Analytics Lab
- Pfeil Field, home to IU South Bend's woman's softball team
- Elkhart Center in partnership with the Community Foundation of Elkhart

A variety of other philanthropic gifts have improved instructional space, provided funds for student groups and athletics, and aided faculty development efforts.

### OUTSTANDING FACULTY AND STAFF SUPPORT

In a tremendous show of support for IU South Bend's mission, current and former faculty and staff contributed almost \$1.8 million to ensure student success.

Associate Librarian Emerita Ellen Maher chose to support a scholarship for students enrolled in the College of Liberal Arts and

Sciences or the School of Education. She wanted to support the community she called home for more than half her life. "I honestly love IU South Bend," she said, "and the students it serves in the community."

### SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASED STUDENT SUPPORT

Through the campaign, donors created 85 new scholarships for students at IU South Bend, providing almost \$2 million more in scholarship resources for students (read some of their stories on the next page). "During the campaign, the President's Office provided a match for endowed scholarships, which created a lot of incentive to our donors," said Dina Harris, director of development.

In fact, after learning Indiana University would provide a match for newly created scholarship endowments, Emeritus Professor of Chemistry Lawrence Garber and his wife Carolyn decided to increase their gift the first year so it would qualify for the match.

To date, five students have benefited from the Carolyn and Lawrence Garber Summer Research Scholarship—a scholarship that provides a stipend to students for undergraduate summer research with Indiana University faculty. "This year's scholarship went to a very bright student who is an immigrant from Yemen," said Garber. "Two recipients are now in graduate school. And one recipient's research, which she started as a summer research scholar, was published. She and her faculty mentor were co-authors."

"The generosity of our donors, current and former faculty and staff, and local foundations during the Bicentennial Campaign is helping us fulfill the mission of IU South Bend, enhancing our facilities and programs and supporting students with scholarship resources, so more students can take full advantage of all IU South Bend has to offer," said Chancellor Susan Elrod. "In turn, they will prosper in their careers and make significant contributions in their communities."

# FOR ALL: BY THE NUMBERS

## IU SOUTH BEND'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE LARGEST CAMPAIGN IN IU'S HISTORY



## RAISED FROM CURRENT AND FORMER FACULTY AND STAFF



Mya Perry



### MYA PERRY, SENIOR, SECONDARY EDUCATION

Mya Perry, a senior majoring in secondary education, was working as a bartender while pursuing her undergraduate degree. When she was awarded the Richmond and Virginia Calvin Underrepresented Teachers Scholarship her junior year, she was able to reduce the amount of hours she worked to two days a week. “It provided more financial stability, so I was able to work less and focus on my studies,” she explained. “Because of that I was able to make the dean’s list.” When the coronavirus pandemic closed bars and restaurants, she lost her job. “It was a real lifesaver to have that cushion,” she added.

A study abroad scholarship also made it possible for her to take advantage of an opportunity to study in Belize, she said.

This semester, Perry is student teaching at her alma mater, Adams High School. She’s teaching on a hybrid schedule because of the pandemic. “I have to prepare lessons for both on line and in-person instruction,” she explained. “It would have been very difficult to work and student teach,” she said.

Perry is looking forward to teaching social studies in high school next year. She’s completed her licensing exams and plans to stay in Indiana. “I’d like to teach historical perspectives, sociology, and U.S. history at the high school level,” she said.

Perry’s scholarship support not only offered her peace of mind, but it made it possible for her to take full advantage of her college

experience. “I love IU South Bend,” she said. “People don’t realize how many opportunities there are at IU South Bend.”

### BROOKE LAUTEN, SENIOR, HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT

Like many IU South Bend students, Brooke Lauten, a senior majoring in healthcare management, worked while she pursued her degree. She started as an accounting major but later changed to healthcare management. “I wanted to work in a field where I could help people,” she said.

A graduate of Jimtown High School, Lauten chose IU South Bend because it was close to home. “I could work and go to school and get a good degree,” she explained.

Last fall, Lauten was awarded the Douglas Leonard Business Scholarship. It made a world of difference, she explained.

Recently married, she and her husband also brought her disabled mother into their home to live with them. “It allowed me to continue to go to school and take care of my mother,” she said.

She’s looking forward to working in healthcare management after graduation and she’s grateful for the scholarship that made it possible to care for her mother while she finished her degree.

### ERIC YANKOSKY, JUNIOR, NURSING

“It made my day,” said nursing student Eric Yankosky, when he learned he had been awarded the Vera Z. Dwyer Nursing Scholarship.



During his freshman and sophomore years he commuted to IU South Bend from Syracuse—an hour commute each way. “The commute often left me mentally exhausted,” he explained. “The scholarship allows me to live more comfortably on campus.” With more time to study, his grades went up, too, he added.

Yankosky’s interest in nursing began with a trip to the urgent care center when he was younger. “It wasn’t an emergency situation, so I was intrigued by the care I was receiving and asked questions about what they were doing.” As a student at Wawasee High School, he took science classes to learn more about the uniqueness of the human body, he explained.

After graduating from high school, he followed in the footsteps of his two siblings and enrolled at IU South Bend. “I chose IU South Bend because it was affordable and it has a fantastic nursing program,” Yankosky said.

This semester, he began his clinical rotations. He’s currently doing a psychiatric rotation at Epworth Hospital. “I’m really enjoying the experience,” he said. “My clinical instructor is so helpful.”

Living on campus he is able to take advantage of many opportunities, including Titan Productions and the IU South Bend Health and Wellness Center, where he works as a work-study nursing student.

When he graduates, he hopes to stay in the area and work as a nurse in cardiac or surgical care. In the meantime, thanks to the scholarship he’s enjoying being able to live on campus and take advantage of all that IU South Bend offers.

# PLANNED GIFTS **CREATE** LASTING LEGACY

Whether they gave through their wills, retirement plan assets, or life insurance, donors gifted **\$1.2 million** through planned gifts to shape a strong future for IU South Bend.

**WANTING TO EXPRESS HIS GRATITUDE** for his many years at IU South Bend, Emeritus Professor of History Patrick Furlong discussed his options for giving with the IU South Bend’s Office for Development. Furlong was intrigued by the substantial financial benefits associated with a charitable gift annuity with the IU Foundation. The annuity provides a monthly payment to him for the remainder of his life for the rights to receive the remainder of the asset upon his death.

After Furlong’s lifetime, the remaining amount of the charitable gift annuity will be used to support the IU South Bend History Department, the Masters of Liberal Studies, and the Franklin D. Schurz Endowment Fund—all university entities Furlong impacted during his 37 years at IU South Bend. The retired history professor made a planned gift to IU South Bend because he believes in the vision and the people of the institution he said, “I care about the students, faculty, and the mission of IU South Bend,” said Furlong.

Recently, the Office of Development established Bridge to the Future, a donor recognition society for supporters making planned gifts to IU South Bend. Planned giving is one way to give back and establish your legacy at IU South Bend.

To learn more about making a planned gift to IU South Bend, contact Dina Harris at [diharris@iusb.edu](mailto:diharris@iusb.edu) or Molly Sullivan at [mollsull@iusb.edu](mailto:mollsull@iusb.edu) in the Office of Development.

# NOT POLITICS

# AS USUAL

## FOSTERING ELECTION ENGAGEMENT AND CIVIC LEADERSHIP ON CAMPUS

**THROUGHOUT** the past election year, IU South Bend's political science faculty and the campus's chapter of the American Democracy Project (ADP) were exceptionally active on campus and in the community, providing live public forums with local candidates, candidate debates, and voter outreach. Beyond the campus, political science faculty provided expertise to local, national, and international media and participated in local programming.

"The local media rely on us. We share our expertise as IU professors, working with the media and making guest appearances on local programs such as WNIT's *Politically Speaking*," said Elizabeth Bennion, professor of political science and nationally recognized expert on civic education and political engagement, and the founding director of the American Democracy Project of IU South Bend. "In addition to providing the regional and local perspective for local news stations, we also did 420 interviews with national and international media when Pete Buttigieg was a candidate in the presidential primary election."

Likewise, student members of the American Democracy Project of IU South Bend engage in educational outreach on a consistent basis, and were especially active this year for the presidential election, organizing virtual debate watch parties, online lectures, and discussion forums.

"The American Democracy Project is a non-partisan project that is designed to educate students about democracy and about politics," explains Bennion. "We aim to create college graduates who have the knowledge, skills, experiences, and values required to really make a difference in their communities."

ADP also provided voter education about the voting process and the candidates to clarify misinformation and provide opportunities for students and the community to learn about the candidates' platforms apart from their political party affiliation. "We want people to get to know the candidates and cast informed ballots," said Bennion.

In an effort to get out the vote, the student organization hosted Party at the Polls, a National Vote Early Day celebration where the organization gave away free T-shirts, #IUSBVotes masks, custom pins, and more. Described by Bennion as "a mobilization effort to celebrate and encourage people to vote and remind people that Titans vote, that IUSB votes," the event started on campus at River Crossing Campus Housing and concluded in downtown South Bend at the County City Building where participants could cast their votes before Election Day.







Christian Martinez, a senior double majoring in political science and economics, is an American Democracy Project intern, as well as president of the IUSB Political Science Club, who has taken a leading role in many of the organization's outreach events this year. He found registering people to vote to be particularly rewarding: "It's very fulfilling work," said Martinez. "Getting people involved in politics, providing quality, substantive information for students, community, and society. We provide opportunities for civil and political engagement."

In addition to election events, the political science club and ADP also host a wide variety of opportunities that are open to the public on a consistent basis, including deliberative dialogues and forums around divisive, hot national issues such as electoral reform and immigration.

"These are not debates," explains Bennion. "There's no winner or loser. It's a special kind of dialogue, so multiple perspectives are considered. The goal is to find common ground." Bennion noted

the discussion forums are not limited to IU South Bend faculty and students; the public is encouraged to sign up and participate, too.

Party at the Polls  
mobilized, celebrated,  
and encouraged voting,  
and reminded people  
that Titans vote.

To develop student civic leadership skills, ADP also hosts a Civic Leadership Academy. "Students learn skills such as how to talk to elected officials; how to organize with other members in their communities to orchestrate change; how to protest and practice being active citizens," said Bennion. "In turn, they gain the knowledge and the tools to influence positive change in their communities."

In election and non-election years, IU South Bend's political science faculty and student members of the American Democracy Project provide critical expertise and perspectives as well as a wide variety of opportunities to engage in non-partisan events that promote and enhance civil discourse and engagement for students and our community.



# LIFTING UP LOCAL SCHOLARS

## LILLY GRANT INCREASES SUPPORT FOR 21ST CENTURY SCHOLAR SUCCESS

**A RECENT \$4 MILLION LILLY ENDOWMENT GRANT** will enhance support for IU South Bend 21st Century Scholars thanks to the university's partnership with the Community Foundation of St. Joseph County. The grant will boost the 21st Century Scholar Success Initiative, an effort to dramatically increase the number of local low-income students who achieve well-paying jobs in our region by completing post-secondary degrees through Indiana's 21st Century Scholars program.

In eighth grade, students sign a pledge that guarantees a grant to cover the cost of four years of college tuition at any public college in Indiana if they fulfill the pledge requirements. "For the 21st Century Scholar program to be successful, we need to be with these students from eighth grade until they finish college," said Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Douglas McMillen. Therefore, the 21st Century Scholar Success Coalition brought together 24 entities that are working in concert to help these students finish the requirements from grades 8-12.

"IU South Bend is thrilled to be a part of this coalition aiming to increase access to higher education for local students and families," said Chancellor Susan Elrod, one of the founding members of the 21st Century Scholar Success Coalition. "As this region's public university, IUSB's mission is to support anyone who wants to pursue higher education. This funding will help us provide greater support for these students so they can receive a college degree and pursue their passions."

IU South Bend will work closely with the Community Foundation and other collaborating partners on a three-year

project. The funding allows for staffing of an additional success coach to provide outreach and support services to all IUSB 21st Century Scholars.

McMillen noted that IU South Bend's current initiatives to support low-income student success have led to improved retention and graduation rates for students with Pell Grants in the last decade.

IU South Bend currently enrolls more than 350 21st Century Scholars. To further enhance initiatives already in place, two success coaches will provide dedicated advising for IUSB 21st Century Scholars and implement and coordinate other aspects of a comprehensive program, including:

**Summer Jump Start Bridge Program:** 21st Century Scholars will be invited to participate in a special one-week program with a variety of academic, career planning, and social activities designed to foster their sense of belonging. 21st Century Scholars will learn the campus, meet their advisors and coaches, develop social contacts, and gain other student success skills.

**First Year Seminars:** First year scholars join with their 21st Century Scholar peers in cohort-based sections of the First Year Seminars, which help students learn a variety of student success skills from

writing research papers to using the library and exploring career options.

Additionally, scholars will take part in IU's MoneySmarts U financial literacy program, special career assessment counseling and services, peer and alumni/community mentoring, and distinct cultural, social, and academic activities. Scholars will also be able to take advantage of existing IU South Bend programs such as living in River Crossing residence halls and access to summer On-Track scholarships to support scholars during summer school.

Kevin Lopez





It's a win-win for students, their families, and our communities. "Data shows that students who complete the 21st Century Scholar program are on track to close the achievement gap between them and their more affluent peers by 2025," said McMillen. "Degree completion and student success for 21st Century Scholars is good for the long-term health of our community. About 65 percent of IU South Bend graduates stay in the area to work, raise a family, and improve the quality of life in the community."

### KEVIN LOPEZ, SOPHOMORE, DENTAL HYGIENE

When 21st Century Scholar Kevin Lopez graduated from Washington High School, he knew he wanted to be a dental hygienist. His first exposure to the dental field came in the sixth grade, when he wore braces on his teeth. "I liked the work they did," he said. In his junior and senior years in high school he explored the field further in career and technical education classes.

When it came time to choose a college, the 21st Century Scholar chose IU South Bend.

His high school counselor encouraged him to apply to IU South Bend's Summer Leadership Academy. Participants receive a scholarship that pays 100 percent of the tuition and required fees for two elective college courses. In exchange, students are required to attend classes four days a week from June to August. "Research shows that creating initiatives centered on student engagement is the key to success," said Cynthia Murphy, recruitment retention counselor.

"When a student develops a relationship with faculty, staff, and other students, they are more likely to feel connected to the campus and seek assistance when they need it."

"I was nervous at first," said Lopez, "It really smoothed the transition to college for me." It not only helped him academically, but it also helped him learn his way around the campus and how to interact with students and faculty. "I was more comfortable in the fall when classes started," he explained.

Lopez, like many IU South Bend students, is the first in his family to go to college. "I like that IU South Bend is a small college and has

small classes, so I can interact easily with my professors," he shared.

Lopez's 21st Century Scholarship makes it possible for him to pursue his path in higher education. "I'm not sure where I'll work yet, but I'm looking forward to a career in dental hygiene."

### NATASHA LANTZ, '16 BSW, SOCIAL WORK; '19 MSW, SOCIAL WORK

Natasha Lantz spent a lot of time at the Boys and Girls Club of Middlebury when she was in high school. In fact, she won Boys and Girls Club State Youth of the Year in 2012.

While she planned to be a hospital social worker after she graduated from IU South Bend, it was hard to turn down the opportunity to be the area director of the Boys and Girls Club of Middlebury. Recently, she transitioned from area director to youth behavior specialist at the agency. "It's a lateral move, but I'll be working one-on-one with the kids and their families," she said. "I'm looking forward to being the social worker for the Boys and Girls Club of Middlebury."

Lantz's mother died when she was 12 years old. Her mother's death led to Lantz and her two sisters moving from Elkhart to Middlebury to live with their aunt and uncle. "Before my mom died, I struggled with education," she said. "After she died, I managed my grief by pouring myself into education."

Her senior year in high school, Lantz chose IU South Bend after visiting several colleges. "I loved IU South Bend," she said. "When I visited campus it felt like home. I knew it was where I needed to go. I wanted to use my 21st Century Scholarship in the best way."

At IU South Bend, she worked as a student professional in Career Services and served as a peer mentor in the Leadership Academy and the Relay Program in Student Services. She also served as the vice-president and treasurer of the Social Work Student Association and was a founding committee member and volunteer at the IU South Bend Food Pantry. "These experiences taught me how to work with people," she said.

"The Career Center and Student Services were like a second family to me," she said. "They really had a big impact on me and my success at IU South Bend and in my career."

Lantz, who attended IU South Bend as a 21st Century Scholar, attributes much of her success in college and her career to working as a student professional in Career Services under the tutelage of Director of Career Services Kim Moore and serving as a peer mentor in Student Services. "It really helped me get plugged in on campus and prepared me for success in my career," she said.



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## ***CAPTURING HOOSIER SPIRIT, WITH TITAN PRIDE***

In March, the Spirit of Indiana, a 4,830-pound bronze sculpture by Dora Natella, was installed on the south end of IU's Memorial Stadium in Bloomington. Natella, associate professor of fine arts at IU South Bend's Ernestine M. Raclin School of the Arts, was commissioned in 2019 to create a piece for this location celebrating the values and character of IU student-athletes.

The work, made possible by a major gift from Pat and Mike Miller, features five student-athletes in a huddle before taking the field of competition, demonstrating the concept of team over self. The five students, two of whom were modeled after IU South Bend student-athletes, measure more than 10 feet to their fingertips.

