

Take Five

January 18, 2020

The News in Academic Affairs



Welcome back to campus—or at least back to teaching and serving our students. As we begin the semester remotely, it may help to employ a few strategies to engage students early and put them at ease. If you are teaching, you might consider using Zoom to work in some live interaction early in the semester to help build community. Whether you are teaching or serving students in other ways, it's also a good idea to try to respond to students' emails or phone calls within one business day. Prompt communication goes a long way in conveying concern and helping to address issues before they get out of hand. Finally, let's all make a point of being explicit about our intentions—with our classwork, our requests for information, and more to help secure buy-in. ● If you like music, you might consider joining one of IU Kokomo's music ensembles. No audition is necessary. The band rehearses at 6 p.m. Wednesdays, the choir rehearses at 4 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and the flute choir rehearses at 4 p.m. on Tuesdays. Email Wendy Grice (gricew@iuk.edu for details.)

Student Success Corner

We enter each new semester with lessons learned from previous terms. Examining which fall 2020 SER indicators were most predictive of probation and dismissal revealed that “Current grade of F” midterm was most predictive of probation, and “Stopped attending” was most predictive of dismissal. While intuitive, such findings reinforce how crucial it is to work together to support consistent attendance and completion of work. If students miss class this week and do not reply to your email/Canvas outreach, please send their names and usernames to your identified support staff for a phone call check-in. See my email regarding SER from January 14 for details. Thank you!
-Christina Downey (downeyca@iuk.edu)



Left: A blood drive sponsored by the School of Nursing this month collected more than 35 units of blood. Dea Kent (pictured here) organized the drive. Above: Elizabeth Sutton and Charla Chailland joined Christina Romero-Ivanova for a discussion of *I Am Restored* as part of a book club that Christina organized.

Upcoming Events

- 1/18: Martin Luther King Jr. Day
 - 1/18: [IU Virtual Social Justice Conference*](#) (all day, online)
 - 1/21: [BLT: Coping with Current Events*](#) (noon, online)
 - 1/21: [Black Student Center Watch Party: Fruitvale Station*](#) (6 p.m., online)
 - 1/23: [Small Town . . . Big Dreams Virtual Panel Discussion](#) (11 a.m., online)
 - 1/26: [Generational Gaps*](#) (10 a.m., online)
 - 2/2: [Career Readiness: Teamwork and Collaboration*](#) (10 a.m., online)
 - 2/16: [Career Readiness: Communication*](#) (10 a.m., online)
 - 2/17: [Virtual Speed Interviews*](#) (11 a.m., online)
 - 2/18: [Virtual Speed Interviews*](#) (1 p.m., online)
 - 2/26: [Virtual Graduate School Panel*](#) (10 a.m., online)
 - 3/2: [Career Readiness: Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, Technology*](#) (10 a.m., online)
 - 3/10: [Your “Brand” . . . Social Media Workshop*](#) (11:30 a.m., online)
 - 3/16: [Career Readiness: Professionalism and Work Ethic*](#) (10 a.m., online)
 - 3/18: [Regional Virtual Cougar Career Fair*](#) (10 a.m.-2 p.m., online)
 - 3/23: [Career Readiness: Leadership*](#) (10 a.m., online)
 - 3/30: [Career Readiness: Career Management*](#) (10 a.m., online)
- * Click on the link to register.

Kudos for Kokomojo

- Thanks go out to Whitney Shaffer, Ben Liechty, J.C. Barnett III, Colie Shelwick, Christine Taff, and J.R. Pico for their thoughtful remarks about the Multicultural Center at Spring Convocation. We appreciate your leadership!