

Take Five

February 1, 2021

The News in Academic Affairs



Thanks to broad participation by faculty and staff, we have made a lot of progress on our strategic plan. The current draft has three priorities: “Cultivating thriving, successful students,” “Distinguishing IU Kokomo as a destination campus for education and employment,” and “Leading in our community through external engagement.” Each priority also has three objectives. This month, we start doing. Strategic Doing is a powerful methodology that, in the words of the book *Strategic Doing*, “enables people to form action-oriented collaborations quickly, move them toward measurable outcomes, and make adjustments along the way.” After participating in a multi-day workshop a little more than a year ago, I am taking a course to become a certified Strategic Doing leader. As part of this course, I will lead some work on one aspect of our strategic plan this month. We then will form teams to launch the work on the individual objectives. As someone who likes doing more than planning, I am an enthusiastic disciple of Strategic Doing. With the capable, committed team we have at IU Kokomo, I am confident that we will use this methodology to start making progress on our strategic plan in a matter of months. Let the doing begin!

Student Success Corner

I’ve been texting with new-to-college freshmen during our remote period, and I am hearing wonderful things about our faculty. Students are using words such as “friendly,” “understanding,” and “amazing” to describe your approach to them, and they are very appreciative of how you work to engage them and keep things as simple and organized as possible. If our college rookies are feeling this way, I am confident our established students have many of the same opinions! So this SSC is a big thank you to all of you from our students.
-Christina Downey (downeyca@iuk.edu)



Lina Rifai created this collage from drawings that her students did in BIOL-L379: Principles of Ornithology last fall.

Upcoming Events

- 2/2: [Career Readiness: Teamwork and Collaboration](#) (10 a.m., online)
- 2/4: [BLT: New to Campus?](#) (noon, online)
- 2/8 [BLT: New to Campus?](#) (noon, online)
- 2/11: [Virtual Activities Fair](#) (noon, online)
- 2/12: [Speed Dating: STEM Learning Technologies](#) (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)
- 2/19: [Speed Dating: Health, Education & Welfare](#) (10 a.m., online)
- 2/19: [LEAP Indiana Workshop](#) (9-11 a.m., online)
- 2/26: [Virtual Graduate School Panel](#) (10 a.m., online)
- 2/26: [Speed Dating: Business, Law, and Public Affairs](#) (10 a.m., online)
- 2/26: [IPE in the Online Classroom](#) (1 p.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)

Some events require registration. Click on links for details.

Kudos for Kokomojo

- Please join me in congratulating the recipients of several IU Kokomo awards: Rick Phelps, Terri Butler, and Tara Grant, Employees of the Year; Rosalyn Davis, Virgil Hunt Service Award; Niki Weller, Chancellor’s Diversity Excellence Award and Claude Rich Excellence in Teaching Award; Josephine Dibie, Claude Rich Excellence in Teaching Award; and Dmitry Chulkov, Distinguished Research and Creative Activity Award.