

Take Five

August 19, 2019

The News in Academic Affairs



At some point in your life (maybe now), you probably have found yourself trying to juggle 10 or 15 or 20 tasks. Maybe you also recall a time

when you were able to focus on just a few. At which time were you more productive? I suspect you agree with me that greater focus generally produces better results. What is true for the individual is also true for an organization such as IU Kokomo. We could try to succeed in a dozen areas, but focusing on just a few priorities is likely to be the better approach. I suggest that we keep this principle of focus in mind during this week's Fall Convocation, when we will be considering and discussing our next strategic plan. Everyone present will have a chance to weigh in on the strategic priorities that will guide our decisions for the next five years. Two hundred intelligent, enthusiastic people working together could easily generate numerous areas where we could try to move IU Kokomo forward, but it will pay off down the line if we make some difficult decisions about "what to leave in, what to leave out," as Bob Seger sings. (Who knew that Bob was so insightful on strategic planning?) Given the projected decline in high school students, we may sometimes feel as if we are, like Bob, riding "Against the Wind," but we're not ones to dwell on the "dark end of the street." We're destined for the "bright side of the road." (Email me if you can identify the source of these lines. Hint: It's from one of Seger's contemporaries.) I look forward to planning with you!

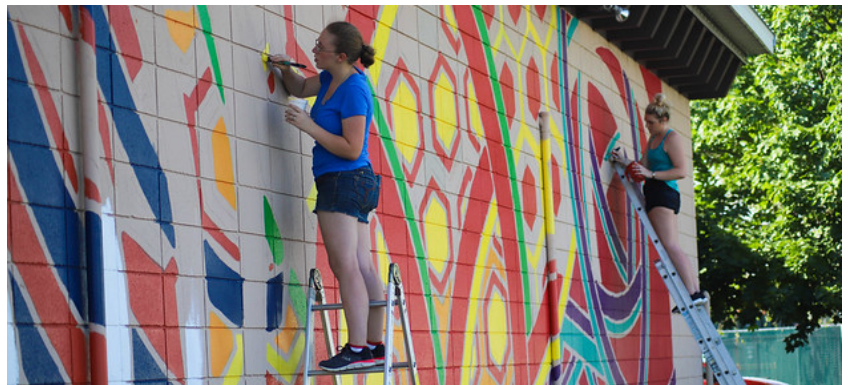
Student Success Corner

Advisors will be seeing students on an all drop-in basis from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. from today through Aug. 30 (with the exception of August 20, when we have Fall Convocation). We are expecting heavy traffic and appreciate your patience and support.

-Christina Downey (downeyca@iuk.edu)



The KEY Summer Institute, which featured off-campus visits to museums and more, has started the work of elevating our students.



Minda Douglas's students painted a mural in Kokomo over the summer.

Upcoming Events

- 8/20: Fall Convocation (8:30 a.m., Kresge Auditorium)
- 8/21: Faculty Senate Retreat (1 p.m., KC 130AC)
- 8/21: Sophomore Induction for Nursing (6 p.m., Havens Auditorium)
- 8/22: Graduate Student Orientation (5 p.m., Art Gallery)
- 8/23: Academic Affairs Retreat (9 a.m., Wings, Etc.)

Kudos for Kokomojo

- Thanks to the efforts of some dynamite instructors, this year's KEY Summer Institute was a great success. Please join me in congratulating and thanking Leda Casey, Paul Cook, Chris Darr, Minda Douglas, Ashley Duffitt, Samantha Fouts, Deb Jaworski, Tara Kingsley, April Mouser, J.R. Pico, Stephanie Pratt, Lina Rifai, Beau Shine, Karla Stouse, Christine Taff, and Michelle Westervelt.