

Take Five

September 20, 2021

The News in Academic Affairs



From reading this column each week, you know I often celebrate the phenomenal work we do at IU Kokomo. I tend to be a very positive person, but I'm not the only one crowing about our campus. In case you missed it, [U.S. News and World Report ranked IU Kokomo sixth](#) in its rankings of best regional public colleges in the Midwest, up from last year's position. These rankings take into account a variety of factors, such as retention and graduation rates, college debt, social mobility, and academic reputation, but I think a key (so to speak) takeaway is that our people—every single one of us working here—contributes to an overall experience that transforms students' lives for the better. Some of us are recruiting, counseling, advising, teaching, coaching, and nurturing students. Others are raising money for scholarships and other important causes, communicating our successes in the media and community, and maintaining and enhancing our physical facilities, financial resources, technology, and library resources. We don't need a ranking system to know that we are making a positive difference, but it's certainly nice to be recognized—not only for the external affirmation that rankings provide, but also for the widespread recognition, which I hope will bring us more students to support and transform. Thank you!

Student Success Corner

The more negative, uncontrollable, vague, threatening, and long-lasting a stressor is seen to be, the more stress it will cause. We don't need psychological research to know this; we've been living it. To help students experience less stress is to intentionally tackle one or more of these factors. How can we help students make independent choices, or break things down into time-limited chunks? Clarity and support can help them get beyond emotion and down to business.

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IU Kokomo's 2021 Hispanic Heritage Month celebration kick-off took place in Alumni Hall on Sept. 15. The month is a nationwide celebration that acknowledges the contributions of Hispanic culture in the United States. During the event, numerous desserts were served for students and staff to enjoy. Donna Bevington sang "Volvete a Amar" by Alejandra Guzman, and Chris Caruvana sang "Moliendo Café" by Hugo Blanco.

Upcoming Events

- 9/23: [DoLittle Movie](#) (5:30—11 p.m., Earth Stage)
- 9/24: [Women's Volleyball Match](#) (6 p.m., SAEC)
- 9/25: [Women's Soccer Match](#) (1 p.m., Kokomo Municipal Stadium)
- 9/27: [Cougar Career Readiness Workshop: Critical Thinking and Technology](#) (12:30—1:30 p.m., Zoom)
- 9/28: [Celebrate Coffee Day](#) (10 a.m.—2 p.m., Quad)
- 9/29: [Your "Brand" Social Media Workshop](#) (10—11 a.m., Zoom)
- 9/29: [Canvas Outcomes for General Education Courses Demonstration & Discussion](#) (2—3 p.m., Zoom)
- 10/1: [Canvas Analytics](#) (10 a.m.—12 p.m., Zoom)
- 10/4: [Canvas: SpeedGrader & DocViewer](#) (10 a.m.—noon, Zoom)
- 10/5: [Bad Girls Series](#) (12—1 p.m., Zoom)
- 10/11: [Cougar Career Readiness Workshop: Teamwork](#) (12:30—1:30 p.m., Zoom)
- 10/12: [UDOIT: Checking Course Availability](#) (9:30—10:30 a.m., Zoom)

Some events may require registration. Click on links for details.

Kudos for Kokomojo

- Thanks go out to the bursar's office (Brenda DeMaggio, Julie Byers, & Gwen Indrutz) for taking on the duties of Parking Services. As a result of this transition, Parking Services is now located upstairs in the bursar's office, KC 205.