



- Assistant Professor Debra Fawcett, Ph.D., was named 1 of 270 National League for Nursing Ambassadors, charged with advancing U.S. nursing education.
- IU Kokomo's student team won the 2007 championship in Kokomo's Division II-Pool A basketball league.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY KOKOMO

Connections

Office of the Chancellor • Indiana University Kokomo • March–April 2007

Offering a regional 'Solution'

For decades, the higher education enterprise in the United States has been viewed as the best in the world. International graduates of our colleges and universities became leaders in their home countries. Our citizens valued higher education; political leaders demonstrated their interest through legislative financial support.



Photo by Heather Hill

**Chancellor
Ruth J. Person**

Along the way, however, that value has been displaced. Fewer public dollars are directed to higher education. While more people are participating in the college experience, the percentage of adults with bachelor's degrees is not increasing rapidly. We are "stalled out" while other nations are making significant progress in educating their citizens at the collegiate level.

The American Council on Education has initiated a public campaign, "Solutions for Our Future," to promote the true value of higher education. IU Kokomo is among the many colleges and universities participating in this campaign, which encourages more people to attend and complete college, and to publicly support higher education.

Let's consider how we can bring this national campaign closer to home. How can we make IU Kokomo a 'Solution for the Future' of north central Indiana? How can we encourage more citizens to participate in and complete bachelor's degree programs, understanding that a bachelor's degree enables individuals to participate in an array of occupations and prepares them for a life of learning, now a requirement for many career transitions?

IU Kokomo's "Solution for the Future" of north central Indiana is, foremost, to enroll and graduate more bachelor's degree students, who can populate the region's leadership and professional ranks and build a better economy and quality of life. As outlined in the story at right, we will focus on more extensive student recruitment and on offering an increasing range of bachelor's degree options that fit both our mission and the workforce needs of the region. Through this focused effort, Indiana University Kokomo will truly be a "Solution for the Future."

Ruth J. Person



Billboards unveiled in February invite viewers to go to www.iuk.edu/six to learn about IU Kokomo's bachelor degrees in Informatics, Public Affairs, Early Childhood Education, Chemistry, and New Media Communications, plus a Secondary Education degree program, expected to start in fall.

Crunching the numbers of student recruitment

3,000, 8,000, and 6 are important numbers for IU Kokomo's latest student recruitment efforts, outlined by Chancellor Ruth Person at the 2007 Spring Convocation.

- During Spring Break, nearly 3,000 middle and high school students will see the campus first-hand, when they attend programs here. Hundreds are expected for Congressman Dan Burton's Youth Leadership Conference on March 12. More will attend the "Welcome to the Real World" career fair, the *Kokomo Tribune* Spelling Bee, and youth leadership summits for Howard and Miami counties.

- Through Project Complete, the Division of Continuing Education plans to contact some 8,000 adults in north central Indiana who have some IU credits but no degree. About 4,300 prospects have received letters, noting credit hours they have completed and the estimated credits they'd need to complete a General Studies degree.

- Six of the newest bachelor's degrees offered by IU Kokomo are featured in billboards and a Web site, www.iuk.edu/six, introduced in February.

Contributing to recruitment efforts will be Jolane Rohr, IU Kokomo's new Director of Admissions and Financial Aid. The former admissions director for Manchester College, Rohr "brings a wealth of knowledge and business practice application from the private college model that will help us better define our recruitment strategies," said Vice Chancellor for Student Services Jack Tharp.



Jolane Rohr

American Shakespeare Co. coming in 2008

Assistant Professor of English Terri Bourus, Ph.D., has received a third New Frontiers in the Arts grant from Indiana University. She'll use the \$40,000 to bring the American Shakespeare Company touring troupe to IU Kokomo in February 2008. The visiting actors will lead student workshops and perform *Henry V* and *Taming of the Shrew*.

Bourus' grant proposal suggested a two-fold approach: using professional actors along with the new computer-based pedagogical tool XMAS, developed at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Visit www.iuk.edu for more information on Indiana University Kokomo.



- Associate Professor Ligaya McGovern, Ph.D., has been elected to the executive board of the Midwest Sociological Society.
- In fall semester, 306 full-time students received Dean's List honors for earning a 3.5 or higher GPA. Seventy-seven topped the scale with GPAs of 4.0.



ATI testing leads to higher pass rate for nursing boards

Ongoing testing and assessment of student knowledge is credited with raising the percentage of IU Kokomo nursing graduates who passed N-CLEX (the National Council Licensing Exam) in 2006. Last year, close to 94 percent of IU Kokomo bachelor's degree graduates passed N-CLEX, the board exam for licensing as a registered nurse. The national average for passage was 88.3 percent.

Three semesters ago, the N-CLEX passage rate for campus alumni stood at the national average, in the high 80s. "Those results were adequate, but we knew they could be better," said School of Nursing Dean Penny Cass, Ph.D.

B.S.N. faculty incorporated tests from the software firm Assessment Technology Inc. (ATI) into their lesson plans. The ATI tests are "not added on but embedded into each course," and ATI scores count toward final grades, Cass said. "Students are delighted" by what they're learning from the tests, she added. "They can identify where they need improvement and work on those areas."

Associate Professor Susan Hendricks headed the test-embedding effort and, "has been reviewing the [test result] data for all they're worth," to see where additional course refinements can be made, Cass said.

Strengthening graduates' retention of knowledge through ATI testing can also strengthen regional healthcare, Cass believes. "We have the possibility of bringing [the passing rate] up to 100 percent. These tests are going to serve the community well. It demonstrates how IU Kokomo provides 'knowledge that works' for north central Indiana."



South Korean nursing students from Margaret Pritchard University talk February 1 with Kokomo gastroenterologist Dr. Hwan Yoo, top left, at St. Joseph Hospital. Opposite him are Dr. Kong Eun Suk, Ji hye Kim, and Ka young Seo. IU Kokomo School of Nursing hosted the visitors for two weeks. In the lower photo, Yean Oh Choe and Ji hye Kim meet John Vieke and Richard LeClerc at the Student Activities Fair.

Calendar of Events All events are open to the public. Visit www.iuk.edu/events for details and even more events.

February 27

Wellness Fair

10 a.m.–2 p.m. Kelley Student Center.
Wildcat Creek Watershed Workshops
4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Kresge Auditorium.

February 28

Movie: *I Am Sam*

7 p.m. Kresge Auditorium.

March 1

Movie: *Rainman*

7 p.m. Kresge Auditorium.

March 11–17

Spring Break, No Classes

March 12–April 22

Ceramic Art of Sadashi Inuzuka
IU Kokomo Art Gallery.*

March 22

Nightingale Dinner M.A.S.H. BASH
6 p.m. Kelley Student Center.

March 22

Disability Awareness
Lecture by Landon Turner
7 p.m. Kresge
Auditorium.

March 24

Old Ben 5K Run/Walk
9 a.m. Highland Park.

March 26

Shihan the Slam Poet
7 p.m. Kresge Auditorium.

March 29

SPEA Public Service Awards
11 a.m. Kelley Student Center.

March 29

Last Lecture by Catherine Barnes
6 p.m. IU Kokomo Art Gallery.



Landon Turner

April 16

Congress to Campus Lecture
7 p.m. Kresge Auditorium. Former U.S.
Congressmen discuss governing.

April 21

Reggae Benefit Concert
6 p.m. Kelley Student Center.

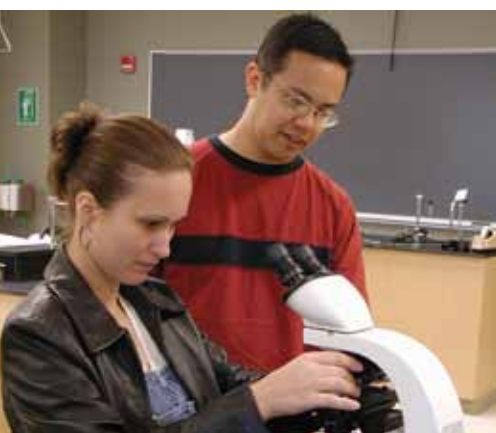
April 24

Angel Walk/Take Back the Night
5:30 p.m. Kelley Student Center.

April 28

Cream & Crimson Dinner
6 p.m. Kelley Student Center.
Distinguished Service Award to be
given to Susan Sciame-Giesecke.
Reservations required; contact alumni@iuk.edu
or (765) 455-9411.

*Gallery hours Monday–Thursday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.; Wednesdays, until 8 p.m.; Saturdays noon–4 p.m.; Sundays, 1–5 p.m.



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