Professors’ research key to gene discovery

By Alisha Throckmorton

The fact that different races are plagued with genetic diseases and ailments that other races are not, has always been a mystery to scientists. African-Americans are prone to sickle-cell anemia, some people of Jewish descent suffer from Tay-Sachs disease, and caucasians are more likely to suffer blindness due to macular degeneration than those with darker skin. But what is in our DNA that reads our race, knows our heritage, and can so discriminatingly attack our bodies?

Nancy Mangini, Ph.D., associate professor of anatomy and cell biology, Indiana University School of Medicine-Northwest, has made a key discovery of a gene that regulates skin pigmentation. This gene is for a protein that regulates calcium, but was discovered to have capabilities of restoring color to light-colored Zebrafish, which lack the gene. While you may think, ‘what does this mean to me?’, it could someday mean the difference between life and death. The discovery, which was part of a research study conducted among 25 scientists around the country, means that one day researchers may be able to more effectively treat, or even cure, diseases that affect different populations. “This same gene was found to be directly related to variations in human skin pigmentation,” Mangini explained. The discovery, which was part of a research study conducted among 25 scientists around the country, means that one day researchers may be able to more effectively treat, or even cure, diseases that affect different populations. “This same gene was found to be directly related to variations in human skin pigmentation.”

Strategic Planning Team to narrow focus of Outcome 4 for coming year

By Alisha Throckmorton

Outcome #4 goal for 2010: IUN values and is recognized for its commitment to diversity as a critical component of excellence in higher education as demonstrated through recruitment and retention of students, faculty, staff and administrators, employment practices, professional development, and its academic programs.

There is no mistaking the fact that the northwest Indiana region boasts an extremely diverse, eclectic and unique mix of populations comprised of many races, ethnicities and heritages. The opportunities for learning and personal growth are unlimited when these groups converge in an open and progressive environment such as the IU Northwest campus. We are fortunate in that we have the physical, creative and human resources available to attract some of the most promising students in the state. But are we equally successful in attracting and retaining equally talented minority faculty members?

During the remainder of 2006, the key focus of the Strategic Planning Team (SPT) regarding Outcome 4 will focus on the topic of race, and how IU Northwest can attract, hire and retain faculty members of different races. Currently, minority professors (not including adjunct) comprise approximately 20% of the faculty. According to a 2003 report published by the National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education, (www.nces.ed.gov/programs/digest) which detailed the statistics of full-time, instructional faculty in degree-granting institutions nationwide, 15.6% were minorities. While IU Northwest is above the national average, we are uniquely positioned in this community to offer professional, personal and educational opportunities and experiences that should make us competitive with other institutions of our size in attracting a unique and talented pool of diverse faculty applicants.

For this reason, it was determined that the IU Northwest campus community as a whole could greatly benefit if the SPT chose to: examine the current situation, research methods and means of broadening the applicant base, engage in open dialogue, and develop strategies for promoting, recruiting and retaining talented minority faculty members.
dialogue with the members of the community, and finally to develop a strategy that will enable us to ultimately be more diverse in our faculty positions.

“We want to find creative and innovative ways to bring in and retain minority faculty,” said Chuck Gallmeier, Ph.D., associate professor and chair of sociology and anthropology. While this will take much time, effort and planning, the positive implications of having an even more culturally diverse campus community are far reaching in social, educational, professional and personal terms.

For more information about the Shared Vision and the Strategic Planning Team visit www.iun.edu/vision/.

Anja Matwijkiw, Ph.D., assistant professor of philosophy, presented her paper The Ethics of Globalization at the COAS Research Conference at IU Northwest in November. She also presented a talk November 18 at IIT (Illinois Institute of Technology), Chicago entitled The Ambivalence of the Revenge Ban.

Subir Bandyopadhay, Ph.D., professor of marketing, has received a grant from the Center for Sustainable Regional Vitality (CSRV) for his obesity project. He has also received another grant from CSRV with Professor Ranjan Kini to develop an export marketing strategy for northwest Indiana industries, and a Geographic Information System (GIS) map for all exporting companies in the region. In addition, Professor Bandyopadhay and his graduate student Julie Wolfe recently published a paper on eLoyalty at the Review of Business Research. Dr. Bandyopadhay also reviewed three best-selling books on brand marketing for the prestigious Journal of Marketing.

Arlene Adler, M.Ed., director of the radiologic science program, recently had the fourth edition of her textbook, Principles of Radiographic Imaging: An Art and a Science. Albany: Delmar Publishers, Inc., 4th Edition, 2006 published. It is physics and imaging book used by radiography programs across the country. It has a lab and instructor manual to accompany it along with an Electronic Classroom Manager that provides educators with a test bank, image library and PowerPoint slides for each chapter in the text.

Diane M. Larson, lecturer, computer information systems developed, wrote and presented An Introduction to Microsoft Access workshop at Jasper and Newton Counties’ Lifelong Learning Center in Morocco, Indiana on November 5, 2005.

Tin-Chun Lin, Ph.D., assistant professor of economics, presented his article, The Impact of Local Taxes on Parental Choice of Education at the Southern Economic Association Conference in Washington DC, November 18-20, 2005. He also presented his article, Economics of Restaurant Tipping Behavior: A Dynamic Game of Complete and Perfect Information at the Allied Social Science Association Conference in Boston, January 6-8, 2006.

Linda Delunas, Ph.D., associate professor of nursing, has been informed that she has been selected to receive the Indiana University W. George Finnell Award for Outstanding Service. The award will be presented at the IU Founders Day Ceremony in Bloomington on April 2.

Charles P. Gallmeier, Ph.D., associate professor and chair of sociology and anthropology, recently published an article titled, Oasis in the Street: A Research Note on the Ethnographic Field Station, in The Journal for the Liberal Arts and Sciences, Volume 10 No. 1:4-9, 2005. Professor Gallmeier was also invited to give an address at the quarterly meeting of the Quality of Life Council of Northwest Indiana at Valparaiso University, December 12, 2005. The title of his address was The Social Fabric of Leadership: Surviving the Leadership of Bullshit.

Ruth Needleman, Ph.D., was accepted to the Graduate Faculty of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. She just completed teaching a 10-day graduate course on Worker Education for Master’s students in their Union Administration and Leadership Program. In addition, Dr. Needleman has also assumed the responsibility of chair for the Division of Labor Studies statewide. She will oversee academic programs on all campuses. The Labor Studies program has seen record enrollment increases in its on-line offerings; the Labor Studies Program now offers all coursework necessary for an associate and bachelors of science degree from IU through OnCourse.

Outlet 4 2006

Employment practices, professional development and mentoring processes have enabled us to recruit and retain a more ethnically and racially diverse body of faculty, staff and administrators, to enhance academic excellence.

NOTE: After extensive deliberation, the SPT chose to focus on racial and ethnic aspects of diversity for 2006. This focus is related to a critical need and opportunity based on our location and the regional racial climate. Consistent with the IU Northwest Diversity Statement we will be moving forward to consider additional aspects of diversity in future years. Please refer to the campus definition of diversity which was an outcome in 2004.

Excerpt from an e-mail message to IU Northwest Community regarding 11/29/2005 - 12/1/2005 retreat from Kathryn Lantz, interim associate vice chancellor for university advancement
Translating Difficult Concepts through Online Visuals
Wednesday, February 8, 2006
11:00 – 11:50 am

Presenters: Randy Newbrough and Jay W. Hagenow, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis

As more and more universities invest in moving courses online, faculty find themselves struggling with how to transfer difficult concepts once taught in the traditional classroom to the online environment. This session will focus on how faculty can use technology to create learning objects that are based on instructional design principles, are purposeful, interactive, and still teach core concepts.

This session is part of the “2nd Wednesdays@Noon” series about teaching with technology offered by IHETS (Indiana Higher Education Telecommunication System).

Brown Bag Discussion: Using Oncourse
Monday, February 13, 2006
12:30 – 2:00 pm

Monday, February 13, 2006
12:30 – 2:00 pm

More and more faculty are using Oncourse to support their teaching. This session is an opportunity for colleagues to come together and share how they are using Oncourse and think about new ways Oncourse can be used to save faculty time and enhance student learning. Dr. Linda Delunas, Associate Professor and Associate Dean of Nursing, and Faculty Mentor for Oncourse, will assist in the facilitation of this session. Bring your lunch and join your colleagues in an informal Brown Bag Discussion on this important topic.

How to Write a Successful Grant Proposal
Tuesday, February 14, 2006
8:30 – 10:00 am OR 10:30 am - Noon

Presenter: Martha Harris, Ph.D.

The purpose of the workshop is to explore with new and other interested faculty how to write more successful grant applications. Participants will be guided through examination of their specific ideas, projects and/or requests for proposals. Tips will be shared that can apply to both federal and philanthropic grantors. Samples of completed applications will be shared.

Hybrid Courses: Teaching Twice as Much in Half the Time
Tuesday, February 21, 2006
10:00 – 11:30 am

Hybrid courses - courses for which seat time is reduced in exchange for robust online learning experiences - can be an attractive option for both faculty and students at a commuter campus like IU Northwest. In this session, participants will learn what a hybrid course is and how it differs from a face-to-face course and a fully online course. Various tools within the Oncourse environment will be shown, and participants will be encouraged to consider how they might use these tools to design effective online activities. Several online learning activities will be showcased.

The session will be facilitated by CETL staff members Emily Hixon, Ph.D., Instructional Design Specialist, and Jodie Reminder, M.S., Instructional Technology Specialist.

Preparing a Case for Excellence in Teaching
Friday, March 3, 2006
8:30 am - 11:20 am

Preparing a Case for Excellence in Teaching is a series of three sessions designed to familiarize you with the tenure and promotion process, and inform you about several teaching awards available to IUN faculty. Panelists will make brief presentations, allowing plenty of time for questions (see website for panelists for each session). You may attend any or all sessions.

January brought exciting changes to the Oncourse CL, IU’s online collaboration and learning tool. However, changes often lead to more questions. Below are some of the most common questions and the answers:

Common questions (and answers!) concerning Oncourse

By Jodie Reminder, Instructional Technology Specialist

Where is this Message Center that everyone is talking about?
The Message Center tool (similar to the internal email in the original Oncourse) was released after course sites for the Spring 2006 were built. This means that the Message Center was not set as a default tool for Spring 2006. To turn on the Message Center, click on the Site Info button for your course. At the top of this page is the Edit Tools link where you can add the Message Center to your course.

Will this be the last semester for the original Oncourse?
As of right now, new courses will not be created in the original Oncourse for Summer 2006 and beyond. Instructors who are not teaching in the new version should request a project site for Oncourse CL. CETL will continue to provide Oncourse workshops throughout the semester to assist instructors during this transition.

Will I lose all the previous work that I’ve done within the original Oncourse?
No. Instructors have the ability to save and import previous courses into Oncourse CL. In addition, courses will continue to be available in the original Oncourse for two academic years. For example, courses taught in Spring 2006 will be available until Spring 2008.

Where can I turn when I have a problem with Oncourse?
Jodie Reminder, is IU Northwest’s Oncourse contact person. Instructors and staff who have questions or experience problems with Oncourse can contact CETL’s Instructional Technology Specialist, Jodie Reminder, by phone at 981-5663 or by e-mail at jreminde@iun.edu.
February 1, 1926, what is now known as Black History Month was first celebrated on this date as Negro History Week. It became a month-long celebration in 1976.

February 2, 1914, artist William Ellisworth is born in Washington, North Carolina. Educated at Syracuse University, he was a student of Florida artist Augusta Savage. His works were exhibited at Atlanta University, the Whitney Museum, the Two Centuries of Black American Art exhibit, Fisk University, Hampton University, the North Carolina Museum of Art and private collectors.

February 3, 1956, Autherine J. Lucy becomes the first black student to attend the University of Alabama. She was expelled three days later for her own safety in response to threats from a mob. In 1992 Autherine Lucy Foster graduated from the University with a master's degree in education. The same day, her daughter, Grazia Foster, graduated with a bachelor's degree in corporate finance.

February 4, 1886, a stamp of Sojourner Truth is issued by the U.S. Postal Service.

February 5, 1990, Columbia University graduate and Harvard University law student Barack Obama became the first African American named president of the Harvard Law Review.

February 6, 1898, Melvin B. Tolson, author, educator, poet, was born. Today in 1961, a jail-in movement started in Rock Hill, S.C., when students refused to pay fines and requested jail sentences. Students Nonviolent Coordinating Committee urged south-wide "Jail, No Bail" campaign.

February 7, 1872, Alcorn A&M College opened.

February 8, 1968, Thirty South Carolina State students were shot, and three were killed by police, in what was called the Orangeburg Massacre. Students were protesting segregation at an Orangeburg bowling alley. Today in 1925, students staged strike at Fisk University to protest policies of white administration.

February 9, 1960, 100 Johnson C. Smith University students staged sit-ins at downtown Charlotte lunch counters.

February 10, 1854, founder and first president of Livingstone College, Joseph Charles Price was born.

February 11, 1996, Penn's Baccalaureate Speaker was the Right Reverend Barbara Clementine Harris, a Philadelphian who was the first woman ever to become a bishop in the Anglican Communion.

February 12, 1900, for a Lincoln birthday celebration, James Weldon Johnson writes the lyrics for "Lift Every Voice and Sing". With music by his brother, J. Rosamond, the song is first sung by 500 children in Jacksonville, Fla. It will become known as the "Negro National Anthem".

February 13, 1635, America's first public school, the Boston Latin School, opened in Boston. Black students were excluded from attending.

February 14, 1867, Morehouse College organized in Augusta, Georgia. The institution was later moved to Atlanta.

February 15, 1848, Sarah Roberts barred from white school in Boston. Her father, Benjamin Roberts, filed the first school integration suit on her behalf.

February 16, 1857, Frederick Douglass elected President of Freedman Bank and Trust.

February 17, 1870, Congress passed resolution readmitting Mississippi on condition that it would never change its constitution to disenfranchise Blacks.

February 18, 1913, the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority was incorporated at Howard University.

February 19, 1942, the Army Air Corps' all African American 100th Pursuit Squadron, later designated a fighter squadron, was activated at Tuskegee Institute. The squadron served honorably in England and in other regions of the European continent during World War II. February 20 today in 1927, Sidney Poitier was born in Miami, Florida. Today in 1968, state troopers used tear gas to stop demonstrations at Alcorn A&M College.

February 21, 1987, African Americans in Tampa, Florida rebelled after an African American man was killed by a white police officer while in custody.

February 22, 1911, activist and social reformer Francis Ellen Watkins Harper died. Harper founded the National Convention of Colored Women in 1864 and was involved in other projects for women's rights.

February 23, 1868, Dr. William Edward Burghardt DuBois, educator and civil rights advocate, was born.

February 24, 1864, Rebecca Lee Crumpler becomes the first black woman to receive an M.D. degree. She graduated from the New England Female Medical College.


February 26, 1920, Dr. Carter G. Woodson founded Associated Publishers.

February 27, 1872, Charlotte Ray graduates from Howard Law School. She is the first African American lawyer in the U.S.

February 28, 1704, the first Frenchman, opened school for Blacks in New York City.

Compiled from www.myflorida.com
Schedule for Spring 2006
Computing Workshops

Workshops are open to
Currently registered students, faculty, and staff at NO CHARGE.

Reservations are recommended as seating is limited. Alumni and employees sponsored by non-profit organizations may attend for $30 per workshop. Registration requests will not be considered complete until fees are paid. All workshops meet in Hawthorn 108. To register: call 980-6960, email jcoven@iun.edu or visit Hawthorn 108B.

Materials for those attending a workshop are free. Handouts for self-study are $5 for all IU Northwest students and personnel. Others, call 980-6960, email jcoven@iun.edu or visit Hawthorn 108B

FEB 1: 5:30 – 8:30 pm * NEW *
Excel 2: Lists

FEB 2: 1 – 4 pm
Photoshop 1: the Basics

FEB 3: 9 am – Noon
PowerPoint Basics

FEB 6: 5:30 – 8:30 pm
Access 3: Queries

FEB 7: 1 – 4 pm * NEW *
Excel 2: Lists

FEB 8: 5:30 – 8:30 pm * NEW *
Excel 2: Tools for What-Ifs

FEB 9: 1 – 4 pm
Photoshop 2: Editing & Compositing Images

FEB 10: 9 am – Noon
Excel 1: The Basics

FEB 13: 5:30 – 8:30 pm
Access 4: Forms

FEB 15: 5:30 – 8:30 pm
Dreamweaver 1: Web Page Basics

FEB 16: 1 – 4 pm
Illustrator 1: The Basics

FEB 17: 9 am – Noon
FrontPage Basics

FEB 20: 5:30 – 8:30 pm
Access 5: Reports

FEB 22: 5:30 – 8:30 pm
Dreamweaver 2: Layers & CSS

FEB 23: 1 – 4 pm
Illustrator 2: Complex Illustrations

FEB 24: 9 am – Noon
Dreamweaver 1: Web Page Basics

FEB 27: 5:30 – 8:30 pm
Access 6: Designing & Packaging Databases

The IU Northwest Anthropology and Biology Clubs present:

THE EIGHTH ANNUAL DARWIN DAY

Featuring a debate on the question of INTELLIGENT DESIGN

Wednesday, February 15, 2006 1- 3:00 pm

IU Northwest Library Conference Center 105C

Free admission, open to the public, refreshments served

For more information contact Bob Mucci at x6607
Continued from page 1

color. In evolutionary terms, this means that this gene is very important to the life of cells and was conserved from the time that fish evolved all the way to humans,” said Mangini.

The lead author of the study, Dr. Keith Cheng, from Penn State University College of Medicine, also found meaning beyond the control of skin color. Cheng feels that the subject of medically important differences between genes among individuals is of paramount importance and a reason for studies like this.

Mangini explained, “This gene controls calcium and we discovered that a minor change causes differences in pigmentation. Even this gene, in cells other than pigment cells, might cause differences in the way cells react to medicines. So skin color might be an indicator of the potential for other health problems that are significant. The more we know about how genes differ between individuals and among populations, the better we will be able to tailor medicines to treat specific medical conditions to which they are more prone.”
February ‘06

8 Shoshanna Johnson, Iraq War POW, on “Freedom Isn’t Free”
   Savannah Center Auditorium, 5:30 – 9 p.m.
   Co-sponsored by: Multicultural Affairs

13 Reshaping of the Given Form Exhibit
   (various artists)
   Feb 13 - March 10, SC Gallery
   Co-sponsored by: Fine Arts Department

17 Reshaping of the Given Form Performance
   12-2 p.m. SC Gallery
   Co-sponsored by: Fine Arts Department

21 Women’s Business Expo
   12-2 p.m., LC 105A
   Co-sponsored by: Women's Studies and WSSA

23 Afeni Shakur, Actress/Activist
   (Mother of Tupac Shakur, Rap Artist)
   5-10 p.m. Tamarack Hall Theater
   Co-sponsored by: Department of Minority Studies, Student Activities Board, and Black Student Union.

24 Reshaping of the Given Form Demonstration
   12-2 p.m. SC Gallery
   Co-sponsored by: Fine Arts Department

March ‘06

1 First Annual Hip Hop Summit & Conference
   6-11 p.m. Savannah Center Auditorium and Lobby
   Co-sponsored by: Department of Minority Studies, BSU, and ALMA student organizations.

2 Reshaping of the Given Form Lecture
   12-2 p.m., Savannah Center Gallery
   Co-sponsored by: Fine Arts Department

2 Mary Mahoney Lecture and Luncheon
   9 a.m. – 12 p.m., Savannah Center Auditorium
   Co-sponsored by: The Department of Nursing

April ‘06

4 Angela Johnson, African-American Author of Children and Young Adult Fiction
   5:30 – 7 p.m., Savannah Center Auditorium.
   Co-sponsored by: Department of English, Women’s Studies and Spirits Magazine

11 Women's Studies Book and Film Club
   Noon, Savannah Center 207.
   For schedule please contact Women’s Studies at (219) 980-6680
   Co-sponsored by: Department of Women’s Studies

18 Gary, Indiana’s First One Hundred Years, 1906-2006, Lecture & Reception, 4-9 p.m.,
   Savannah Center Auditorium & Lobby
   Funding provided by a donation from the IU Foundation
I survived a 105 mile bicycle race!

A diary excerpt from medical student Jennifer Wagner

I woke up bright and early at 6 a.m. on Saturday, ate my oatmeal and packed for Spiceland. I got there, was too busy getting my bike ready to actually listen to the announcements, but I heard them counting down so I hurried over and took off with the rest of the group. I had no idea as to which way we were going (the routes ranged from 15 to 105 miles, so it would have been a good idea to find out which way my route went), but by talking to other cyclists, I figured out where to go.

Mile 17: Feeling great! I headed down a hill. It was sunny and 88 degrees.

Mile 30: Got chased by a big scary dog, but the rest stop was just ahead. I got off the bike and gave my butt a five minute rest.

Mile 40: The temperature climbed to 92 degrees, but now I was on newly paved road, smooth with few hills, so I'm going decently fast.

Mile 50: Another rest stop. They do some music trivia and I stuff my face with a bagel and peanut butter.

Mile 60: Another rest stop and an air-conditioned building! I splash cold water on my face as the temperature now reads 100 degrees. Ouch!

Mile 70: Rest stop, but I don't stop. Looks like rain!

Mile 73: It is rain! as well as thunder, lightning, hail, ridiculous winds and zero visibility.

I shield myself with a weeping willow tree and do a little weeping of my own. I was scared and thought I'd die in a ditch and no one would find me. But alas, the worst of it lasted only 5 minutes. When the rain wasn't quite so torrential, I got back on and fought the wind for another 20 miles, which included a hilly loop!

Mile 85: The sun is back out and as scorching as ever.

Another rest stop.

Mile 92: My last rest stop. I don't stop long because I am going decently fast.

Mile 105: Wasn't 100 miles enough?! Apparently not. I get back into the little town of Spiceland and volunteers are cheering me on and a little girl gives me a medal to wear around my neck. The delirium has taken hold as I shakily eat some oranges and call my boyfriend, who later told me that I sounded “out of it.” That’s about right.

All in all, it was an adventure, although not one that I would like to ride again. I raised $965 and hope to harass a few more people to bring that up to $1,000. I'm going to call it a success and take a few days off from pedaling!