Campus begins deliberating HHS plans

The process for creating a College of Health and Human Services moved into its next phase last month, as the Health and Human Services Reorganization Committee released a draft proposal outlining the purposes and procedures for what promises to be one of the most significant academic undertakings in the history of IU Northwest.

The plan calls for IU Northwest to establish CHHS in a three-phase process that could take up to three years. The draft proposal cites the growing need for qualified healthcare personnel across the nation, and particularly in Northwest Indiana, as the impetus for establishing CHHS.

"IU Northwest has an important obligation to provide the community with graduates that had established Martin Luther King throughfares as a way to honor the social activist. "There may be many reasons why Gary faces the challenges that it does right now. But when we roll up our sleeves, come together, and create partnerships, you can solve these problems. My view is, we can make it happen. Cities can be transformed."

King said it doesn't take an army of volunteers to effect change in a community. He pointed to his father's activist efforts in the segregated South as proof.

"All it takes is a few good women and men," he said. "It doesn't take a lot. My father didn't have a lot, contrary to what people believe. I meet people every day who say, 'I marched with your dad.' Most of them, I don't believe it. That's only because it wasn't safe to be with Martin Luther King back then. You could lose your job, or even your life. Tragically, some did."

King was touring Gary as part of a 20-city trip across America that saw him visit communities that had established Martin Luther King thoroughfares as a way to honor the slain civil rights leader and pay tribute to his hopes for a better America.

Aggrey also addressed concerns by some faculty about the fate of the IU Northwest College of Arts and Sciences. He noted that some faculty had expressed concern that IU Northwest would not be allowed to house more than one college. Aggrey said that, to the knowledge of IU Northwest administrators, this is not the case, and he said there are no plans to downgrade or eliminate COAS.

Martin Luther King III pays visit to Gary, IU Northwest

Martin Luther King III made a surprise visit to Indiana University Northwest on Aug. 2 as part of his most recent tour of the city of Gary. King, son of the late civil rights giant Martin Luther King, Jr., came bearing a message of hope for Gary and other communities that have been beset by poverty, crime and missed opportunities in the 38 years since his father's death.

"This is such a great city," King told a large crowd of faculty, administrators and students that had gathered in the Savannah Center for Contemporary Art to greet the social activist. "There may be many reasons why Gary faces the challenges that it does right now. But when we roll up our sleeves, come together, and create partnerships, you can solve these problems. My view is, we can make it happen. Cities can be transformed."

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King said he plans to cap his cross-country visit with an October summit in Washington D.C. to discuss with lawmakers the problem of poverty in America. He identified poverty as one of the great evils threatening the country today. King pointed out that his father had also been gravely concerned about poverty in America, along with racism and militarism. King said the need for solutions remains as urgent now as before.
G
ary Martin died doing something he loved, and doing it for people he cared about.

Now, Martin’s thousands of friends, colleagues and students, both at Indiana University Northwest and throughout Northwest Indiana, are left to ponder the awful irony of his fate – that a man who devoted himself to raising funds and awareness for the families of fallen police officers has now fallen himself, the victim of a charity bike ride gone tragically wrong.

Yet, as those who eulogized Martin at his Aug. 28 funeral emphasized repeatedly, the man whom thousands from across the state and beyond turned out to mourn would not have spent much time agonizing over the details of the accident that claimed his life and that of another officer, State Police Lt. Gary Dudley. Instead, Martin, 63, likely would have just shaken his head and chalked it up to what he called “the Martin luck.”

“I think we can say that this is Chief Martin’s day,” said Father John Vamos, chaplain for the Lake County Sheriff’s Department, during Martin’s funeral Aug. 28. Vamos delivered the homily for Martin, who served as the department’s chief of police for three years. “It’s a day none of us wanted, and yet, as he knew, it’s a part of life. I think it’s a good day, because if Gary were here, he’d want us to have a great day.

“We can’t choose how and when to die, yet Gary died doing something he loved,” Vamos said. “We can choose how to live, and Gary chose to live well.”

Martin would have maintained a sense of humor about the somber proceedings in his honor. Lake County Sheriff Roy Dominguez told the capacity audience assembled for the funeral at Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church in Merrillville.

“He would say, ‘All those nice things you say about me, you only say them because they’re true,’” said Dominguez, who successfully lightened the heavy mood by interspersing several humorous recollections of Martin into his remarks. Dominguez hired Martin as his county police chief in 2002.

Lake County Sheriff’s Department photo

Gary Martin, longtime Gary police officer and IU Northwest instructor, is shown here in his Lake County Sheriff’s Department uniform. Martin served as county police chief for three years. He was only days from returning full time to the classroom at IU Northwest when he was killed Aug. 22 in a bicycle accident downtown.

Consolation Catholic Church in Merrillville.

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“Gary Martin was one of those very special people who always brought a smile to your face,” said Joseph Pellicciotti, associate vice chancellor for enrollment man-

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We are always looking to get the word out about awards, publications and distinctions that our faculty, staff and administrators receive. Please submit your admissions by the 15th of each month for the next issue.

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agement at IU Northwest and longtime friend of Martin’s, on Aug. 22. It was Pellicciotti who first hired Martin in SPEA. “He was a wonderful person to be with, and he was one of the finest teachers that I have had the pleasure to work with at IU Northwest. He cared deeply about the success of his students. He was a terrific advisor and mentor. Gary was always available to help students, and he helped them in so many important ways. I can’t think of any other person who has had a greater impact on the development of the criminal justice program at IU Northwest.”

IU Northwest Chancellor Bruce Bergland also expressed gratitude for Martin’s service to IU Northwest, and offered sympathy for his friends and family. “The Indiana University Northwest campus community was deeply saddened to learn of the death of Professor Gary Martin,” Bergland said. “He was a very popular instructor on our campus for 30 years and a valued member of the IU Northwest family. He will certainly be missed. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family at this time.”

Martin was scheduled to teach a full slate of classes for the Fall 2006 semester, including a lecture course on serial murder that only had been added to SPEA’s course offerings about a week before his death. Interim SPEA director Karen Evans, Ph.D. said the loss of Martin would affect the university in very tangible ways. “Speaking on behalf of SPEA, it is impossible for me to describe the impact Gary’s death will have on the division and the University,” Evans stated Aug. 22 following news of Martin’s death. “He was dedicated, both as an active police officer and administrator, and as a teacher, to the values of justice and integrity. His influence has made Northwest Indiana a better place to live, work and raise families. “He was more than a colleague and friend — he was an integral part of our family, and our hearts are breaking. Faculty and staff, and SPEA students past and present, mourn his loss,” she said.

Martin and Dudley were participating in a 13-day, 1,100-mile cycling trip for the Indiana chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors Inc. (COPS) to raise money and awareness for the families of police officers killed in the line of duty. Early on Aug. 22, the van accompanying the riders on their trek was struck from behind by a box truck and sent careening into the riders along the four-lane highway. Martin and Dudley were pronounced dead at the scene; another rider sustained serious injuries. The accident took place on Rt. 63 near Covington, Ind.

Martin, an avid cyclist, had participated in many other charity rides. To honor the memory of their fellow officer and cyclist, some area police personnel attended his funeral dressed in their bike uniforms, helmets tucked beneath their arms.

Suzie Sawyer, executive director of COPS, praised Martin and the other officers who gave freely of their time to help the families of their fallen brethren. “Gary Martin’s entire life was a call to duty,” Sawyer told the audience. She called Aug. 22 the “darkest day” in the history of the COPS organization.

An enormous turnout of mourners for Martin’s funeral services confirmed that the Nashville, Tenn. native and four-year Army veteran had left an indelible mark on Northwest Indiana and throughout the state. At Martin’s Aug. 27 viewing at Burns Funeral Home in Crown Point, a line of people extended out the door and around the building as admirers waited as long as two hours to pay their respects. An estimated 450 police officers attended Martin’s funeral, including representatives from many local departments and some from as far away as Fort Wayne, Evansville and Wheaton, Ill.

Dominguez, who presented Martin’s wife Olga, his son Gregory, and his daughter Jennifer with the former chief’s badge and name plate, said that Martin lived life as though it were a marathon, racing toward each new experience and each new chance to make a difference in someone’s life. “He lived life with a full zeal. He was full of optimism,” Dominguez said. “Gary’s marathon banner of life, he’s crossed it. As usual, the chief got to the finish line before we did. But he will be at the finish line waiting for us, pushing us to do our best and finish the race.”
IU Northwest faculty, administration stand by
Labor Studies as division faces reorganization

The future of Indiana University’s Division of Labor Studies (DLS) will be determined by February 2007, according to officials at Indiana University/Purdue University Indianapolis, which currently serves as home base for the statewide division. Officials there have indicated that, as part of their restructuring, they will no longer host DLS.

That, combined with such factors as disparate enrollment numbers on various campuses, a leadership void following the resignation of former DLS director Chuck Davis, and the loss of $358,000 in state appropriations for labor studies, have contributed to the need for reorganizing the program, according to Interim Director Mark Sothmann.

But some Labor Studies students and faculty at Indiana University Northwest believed as of Aug. 1 that a decision to dismantle the program had already been made, despite assurances from Sothmann that no such conclusions have yet been reached. At a labor studies forum held that day in the Savannah Center Auditorium, DLS faculty, students, graduates, and supporters voiced their displeasure over proposed changes to the program that would reduce the number of faculty and shift the program’s emphasis heavily in favor of online courses.

“Has the decision already been made?” Indiana State Rep. Charlie Brown (D-Gary), a DLS supporter, asked Sothmann. “We don’t need to go through any mental gymnastics here if the decision has already been made.”

Sothmann insisted that he was considering three options for DLS: a merger with another school or a move to a different campus; a decentralization of Labor Studies, with “hub” programs at IUPUI and IU Northwest; or complete disbandment of the program.

Sothmann said he only saw disbandment as a last resort, but he noted that so far, no other partners at IUPUI have offered to merge with Labor Studies. He said the hub concept seemed to be the most sustainable financially.

But Ruth Needleman, labor studies professor and faculty chair of the division, said the hub plan would deprive IU Northwest of the funds necessary to maintain the program here beyond the next two years. She also argued that DLS is a fiscally healthy program that has erased previous budget deficits and that turned a profit in the last academic year.

She questioned how Sothmann could conclude that change is coming for labor studies, insisting that labor studies can be done before. If a program is important enough, it doesn’t have to turn a profit.”

Sothmann tried to assuage the crowd’s concerns, insisting that labor studies can remain viable. One issue he addressed was an earlier mandate from IUPUI that DLS’s associate of science degree would be phased out.

Sothmann argued that much of DLS’s recent revenue has come from online courses, particularly from condensed online classes. Most of that tuition, he said, has been generated from the IU Bloomington campus. IU Northwest’s program, he said, is operating in the red. Also, Sothmann said he’s operating on the assumption that DLS’s recent jump in online students is an anomaly, and that the division cannot count on similar revenue streams in future years.

Supporters of DLS insisted that, regardless of the numbers, Indiana University has a social and moral obligation to sustain and support labor studies on its campuses.

“This (is being done) without any input from the labor community that helped to build this program,” said Robin Rich, a staff member of United Steelworkers District 7. “The labor movement created the middle class in this state that is responsible for most of the students (who attend) IU.”

“Right now, all I am hearing is that the only acceptable answer is to have a Division of Labor Studies,” Sothmann said. “What I am saying to you – and I’m sorry that I have to be the messenger – is that there are no takers at this point. We are at a point where, if we’re going to save labor studies, we need to talk about integration.”

Needleman said Aug. 21 that she and her colleagues in DLS are working to craft their own proposal for labor studies, and that it should be submitted sometime in September. Needleman also said that DLS faculty members were expected to vote on the IUPUI recommendation by the end of August.
Non-Profit Institute offers help to 501-c3s
Center for Regional Excellence participates in LAUW-funded initiative

There are an estimated 2,500 501-c3 non-profit organizations in Lake County, of which 500 are located in Gary alone. They include everything from schools, municipalities and volunteer fire departments to food pantries, women’s shelters and Little League teams.

Many of these groups work toward similar or related goals, and nearly all of them require donations of funding or volunteerism to remain operational. As of 2004, Lake County non-profits accounted for 6 percent of Indiana’s non-profit sector, but they served 8 percent of the state’s population, according to a State of Giving Report released that year by the Lake Area United Way (LAUW). Many 501-c3s have seen a decline in charitable donations, and many lack the know-how or technical resources to pursue available grants.

Also, a joint report on Indiana non-profits released in 2005 by the Center for Philanthropy at Indiana University and the School of Public and Environmental Policy at IU Northwest asserted that charitable organizations in Lake County are not sufficiently organized or networked to take advantage of their large numbers. Organizations that offer similar or related services can often join forces to qualify for larger grants or develop cooperative relationships. But the 2005 report found too little linkage between non-profits here.

In the aftermath of those reports, the IU Northwest Center for Regional Excellence and GRANTS Inc., a grant-writing and training assistance organization that serves Lake, Porter and LaPorte Counties, agreed to collaborate on a new initiative, the Non-Profit Institute (NPI), using a three-year, $150,000 grant from LAUW. The purpose of the NPI is to establish an informational clearinghouse and professional development center for Northwest Indiana non-profits where board and staff members and volunteers can learn how to apply for grants, increase revenue, and maximize their fundraising and operational effectiveness.

“We don’t have all the answers, but we do have the capacity to bring people together in the same room and see how they can develop their own resources and maybe help these organizations to collaborate with each other and get a bigger grant, instead of everybody doing their own little thing.”

—Patti Lundberg
executive director,
Center for Regional Excellence

Another of the NPI’s goals is to match 501-c3s with local volunteers who’d like to help them. LAUW President Lou Martinez said one problem with the current state of non-profits is that there’s no central organizing function in Lake County that matches the county’s considerable volunteer base to the organizations that can best utilize them.

“We're not capitalizing on our human resources. We don’t have any connectivity between the people who are willing to give of their time, skills and talent, and the organizations that can put those people to use,” Martinez said.

“Let’s say you’re an expert in tennis, and you want to teach tennis to underprivileged kids at 4 p.m. on Fridays,” he continued. “That’s great. But I have no information on where your skills can best be used. And you’ve got to get the organizations volunteer-ready. If they don’t give you an award, a certificate, a thank-you, some kind of recognition, or at least a pat on the back, you might not ever volunteer again.”

As part of the Sept. 20 event, NPI staff will hold classes on the use of GrantStation, an online grant database that aids groups in the search for resources. One advantage of this software, which the Institute is also working to make available to local public libraries, is that its search criteria can be narrowed to meet budgetary and other specifications of particular non-profits, making the search results more useful and concise.

Lundberg said applying for grants can already be an intimidating process without the added hassle of sorting through thousands of non-relevant grants.

“The first time you go for a grant, it’s pretty daunting,” Lundberg said. “The tenth time, it’s pretty daunting, but at least you know how to use the software.”

Bowie emphasized that grants alone cannot sustain most non-profits these days, and she said part of the Institute’s mission is to encourage 501-c3s to look beyond traditional donations in their quest for revenue.

“Grants cannot be a sole source of revenue for non-profits in this day and time,” she said. “Many non-profits believe that because they are non-profits, they cannot have a revenue stream. And that’s not accurate.”

“And funders aren’t happy with that,” added Sue Eleuterio, NPI project co-director and executive director of GRANTS Inc. “The first question they ask is, ‘Where is your revenue stream?’”

As for the NPI’s own funding beyond the LAUW grant, Martinez said the plan is to keep a small percentage of any successful grant the Institute assists local groups in writing and applying for. Also, the NPI will collect participation fees for training seminars.

For IU Northwest and the Center for Regional Excellence, participation in the NPI was a chance to make good on the University’s commitment to community involvement and improvement, one of the basic tenets of its Shared Vision. For its part, IU Northwest is donating the Institute’s operating space at the Center’s offices in the Library Conference Center, and is also donating some staff positions in addition to coordination support.

Lundberg said the NPI is about helping non-profit groups match their passion for a given cause to the organizational and development resources necessary to meet their goals.

“People have a passion for the things they need to do, but passion won’t sustain the organization,” Lundberg said. “Lou has a real vision for how this can work, and we hope we can make it happen. We’ll be evaluating our effectiveness.”

For more information about the Non-Profit Institute, contact Sandra Bowie at (219) 981-5673, or e-mail her at san-drabowie@man.com.
Matters of life and death
Prosection seminar teaches anatomy, respect for medical donors

In life, they were somebody’s husbands, wives, parents, co-workers, and friends. They each were someone special. In death, they continue to impact others’ lives by providing an invaluable learning experience to future doctors, nurses and scientists. Their contributions ensure that someday, someone else’s spouse, parent, child, or friend will live because of the service they have provided.

These people are anatomical donors, the folks who literally donate their bodies to science for research or teaching purposes. At the Indiana University School of Medicine – Northwest on Aug. 2 and 3, teams of aspiring medical students, undergraduates, doctoral candidates, young professionals, and others with an interest in gross anatomy prepared five such donors for the coming semester’s first-year medical students. In doing so, they learned much about how the human body is put together and what’s involved in taking it apart for scientific inquiry. Participants also learned how to respect and honor the donors whose bodies they were working on.

“You are a professional, and you are expected to treat the donor with respect and full dignity,” said Ernest Talarico Ph.D., course director of human gross anatomy and embryology at IUSM-Northwest. He was speaking to the 27 prosection participants prior to their first lab session on Aug. 2. “The donors knew full well what they were signing up for when they signed up. Part of the reason they did that was because they knew you would treat them with respect, and they knew that you would use what you learned to help others.”

“It’s a person,” Talarico emphasized later, in an interview with Northwest News. “That donor is really their teacher.”

Talarico, who organizes the prosection seminar each year at IUSM-Northwest, repeatedly pressed home that theme as he outlined the rules for working with anatomical donors. He announced each donor’s first name and the cause of death as he gave each group of prosectors its table assignment. Talarico, an assistant professor of anatomy and cell biology at IUSM-Northwest, cautioned that such information was not to leave the lab. He noted later that in the past, the donors’ real names were withheld, and doctors and students often gave nicknames to the cadavers they worked with. He considers that practice disrespectful.

“These people did a fantastic thing, and they have real names,” he said.

The seminar’s 27 volunteer participants included current IUSM medical students, undergraduates students from IU Northwest, Purdue Calumet, and Purdue North Central, and others. The youngest participant, Matthew Dziarski, was 18 years old. He is headed to the University of Illinois in the fall.

Dziarski said he is considering a medical career. The prosection seminar did nothing to change his mind.

“It think it’s strengthening my gravitation toward medicine,” Dziarski said. “I have some practical exposure to human body. I’ve done it,” he said.

Other participants said the program would help them decide whether they have what it takes to pursue careers in medicine, and particularly whether they can handle the less delicate aspects of a medical education.

“This gives me exposure to cadavers and teaches me to man up,” said seminar participant Tokombo Olaosaabikan.

If anyone at the seminar felt uncomfortable working with the donors during the first lab session, no one showed it. Not even the chemical odor in the lab chased anyone outside. Prosectors donned lab coats and two pairs of gloves and went right to work. Some wore goggles to protect their contact lenses from chemical irritation.

“It’s gross, but it’s not upsetting gross,” said Leslie Harlacker, Ph.D., a Texas native and IU Bloomington anthropology graduate whose academic specialty is the biomechanics of evolution. Harlacker said the two-day prosection seminar would give her some practical exposure to human anatomy and help her better understand the structure and function of human limbs.

Talarico encouraged participants to take breaks, if necessary.

“There is no shame in stepping out of the gross anatomy lab if you need a breather. I’ve done it,” he said.

One of the lab rules Talarico emphasized is that all body parts, pieces of tissue, bits of skin or fat, and anything else that is removed from the cadavers during preparation must be placed in a special
IUSM-Northwest researchers publish study on infection responses

In research published July 28 in The Journal of Biological Chemistry, Indiana University School of Medicine — Northwest scientists Dipika Gupta, Ph.D. and Roman Dziarski, Ph.D. announced an important discovery regarding one of the human body’s first defense mechanisms against bacterial infection.

The discovery could impact the fight against HIV/AIDS and other bacterial infections by leading to the development of new drugs, according to the authors.

According to research published previously by Gupta and Dziarski, many parts of the human body produce a family of proteins that fight against disease-causing bacteria. These proteins work well before the body’s main immune system responds.

But, the researchers’ latest published findings suggest that while the skin produces these proteins only in response to bacteria that are especially virulent or high in number, the human liver produces these disease-fighting proteins constantly. Gupta and Dziarski suggest in their article that the liver’s constant protein production may help fulfill the organ’s preventative role as a blood filter.

Gupta is an assistant professor of biochemistry and molecular biology and Dziarski is a professor of microbiology and immunology at IUSM — Northwest. They are Chesterton residents.
The Indiana University Northwest Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning has a new Instructional Design Specialist (IDS) and Coordinator of Service Learning. Dr. Ju Park comes to IU Northwest from the University of Florida in Gainesville.

Dr. Park earned a Doctorate in Curriculum & Instruction with concentrations in Instructional Design, On-Line Education, and Electronic Media – Mediated Pedagogy. He earned a master’s in Media Studies from the New School for Social Research — Parsons School of Design in New York, and a bachelor’s in Philosophy from Kyung Hee University in Seoul, South Korea.

Dr. Park has worked in educational settings, k-12 and higher education, as well as in the media industry, for more than 10 years. His experiences include being an instructor, an instructional information designer, a media consultant, a special format technician, a global reporter, an assistant editor, and an assistant manager.

Dr. Park is especially proud of his work with the Digital Library at the University of Florida. Dr. Park brings to this position a working knowledge of learning management systems like WebCT, Blackboard, and AKIVA, as well as digital video production, still image production, script language editing, multimedia production, cataloging and circulation, database, and web page design software programs.

He has made invited and refereed presentations in the past four years, addressing meetings sponsored by the Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education, E-Learning, SAMSUNG Digital Media Institute, Schering-Plough Healthcare, and the School of Film and Digital Media at the University of Florida. These presentations focused on E-Learning environments, adult learners, educational web pages, and the emerging roles of instructional designers.

Dr. Park takes the position that instructional designers are extremely critical to “effectively optimize, accurately assess, and beneficially assist students’ performance.” CETL believes that he will be critical in his new role as both the IDS and S-L Coordinator, as it seeks to go beyond improving teaching to documenting the impact of such change on student learning. His expertise should serve CETL well in this important endeavor.

Dr. Park mentioned during his interview that he prefers working in the academic setting, even though the pay in the industry is more lucrative. CETL is happy that it was able to attract such a high-caliber and strongly committed individual to fill this position.

Please visit and welcome Dr. Park to our campus. His office is LC 334 and his phone number is (219) 980-6642.
As part of Indiana University Northwest’s commitment to forming educational partnerships with other institutions in Northwest Indiana, the university has for the past several years worked to forge closer ties with Ivy Tech Community College of Northwest Indiana. Such a relationship would seem to make sense, given that IU Northwest is a Glen Park neighbor to Ivy Tech’s Gary campus, and considering that both schools draw partially from the same student base. The two campuses have worked side by side on community beautification projects and other initiatives, and some Ivy Tech students choose to continue their education at IU Northwest.

This ongoing era of collaboration is a benefit to both schools, according to Ivy Tech Northwest Chancellor Guadalupe Valtierra, who spoke to members of the Glen Park and IU Northwest communities during a summer session of Glen Park Conversations on July 18. He noted that IU Northwest now accepts credit transfers for many of the courses taught at Ivy Tech. In the past, students who obtained an associate’s degree there would have had to repeat many of the same courses here, because IU Northwest did not recognize Ivy Tech’s classes as being sufficiently academically rigorous.

“We’re not there yet, but we’ve done a lot in terms of courses that come across,” Valtierra said. “Thank goodness … because many of (IU Northwest’s) professors were teaching our classes.”

Conversations coordinator Garrett Cope, an associate professor at IU Northwest, proudly noted that he is one faculty member who has taught at Ivy Tech.

“Thank goodness … because many of (IU Northwest’s) professors were teaching our classes.”

Conversations coordinator Garrett Cope, an associate professor at IU Northwest, proudly noted that he is one faculty member who has taught at Ivy Tech.

Valtierra said he’s pleased that the neighboring institutions have developed a more collaborative relationship in recent years.

“Ivy Tech is a wonderful school, a great school,” Cope said. “I have taught at Ivy Tech, and I have enjoyed every minute of it.”

Cope praised the current, closer collaboration between the two schools, and he credited IU Northwest Chancellor Bruce Bergland with fostering a good working relationship with the Ivy Tech chancellor. Cope said Bergland had wanted to attend the July Conversations with his friend Valtierra, but that out-of-town commitments prevented him from being there.

Valtierra praised partnership wth IU Northwest

CRE offers $17,000 for sustainable regional vitality projects

The IU Northwest Center for Regional Excellence announced recently its 2006-07 round of funding in the area of sustainable regional vitality. According to CRE officials, $17,000 is available this academic year to fund scholarly projects or activities by IU Northwest tenured or tenure-track professors and lecturers, along with their collaborators.

The deadline for final proposals is Oct. 9 at 5 p.m. Awards will be announced Nov. 1.

Since 2003, the Center has awarded IU Northwest faculty and their student interns, community partners and project staff with a total of $247,513 in research and creativity grants, in the areas of cultural discovery and learning ($112,108) and sustainable regional vitality ($135,405). These grants have been funded through a Lilly Opportunity Grant and Trustees Commitment to Excellence funds. The broad purposes of the sustainable regional vitality focus for the IU Northwest unique identity goals are defined at the CRE Web site, http://www.iun.edu/~cre.

Projects chosen for funding must be completed by May 15, 2007. Funding is from Trustees’ Commitment to Excellence Funds, which requires that the Center only fund projects that directly benefit undergraduate students as well as further faculty research/creativity focused on improving the quality of life in the region. Priority is given to new proposals over continuations of previously funded projects. Because of limited funding, no faculty stipends can be awarded in this round. Awarded Faculty Fellows are required to present their projects’ results, findings, or work in progress at an on-campus research conference during spring semester 2007.

The CRE Sustainable Regional Vitality Board encourages, but does not require, applicants to submit one-page draft pre-proposals at an open Town Hall meeting on Sept. 27 from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. on the second floor of the Library Conference Center. This is an opportunity for applicants to share ideas, get feedback and advice from the board members, hear other proposals, and discuss whether grouping proposals among applicants might be beneficial.

Proposals must be submitted electronically to cre@iun.edu. They should be no more than five pages in length, plus a one-page line-item budget detailing personnel, student in externships, materials, supplies, etc. Proposals should also include a CV for the faculty project director and a short disclosure if the applicant has applied for or been granted funding from any other source.

Applicants should call Tashena Lollis at (219) 981-5629 to schedule a time for a five-minute presentation and five-minute discussion no later than 5 p.m. on Sept. 22.
Prof. Lane revisits Gary’s first 100 years in book

History professor James Lane knew that with Gary’s centennial approaching this year, his 1970s’ tome “City of the Century” could be a valuable asset to those wishing to look back on the history of Steel City. He also knew that the work, which originated from a series of newspaper columns Lane wrote more than 30 years ago, would need to be updated to the present day.

So Lane, who joined IU Northwest in 1970, chronicled Gary’s history from the city’s economic decline in the 1970s to its recent attempts at revitalization through airport development, gaming boats and minor-league sports teams. Yet, through a quirk of timing, Lane’s new version of his book, “Gary’s First Hundred Years: A Centennial History of Gary, Indiana 1906-2006,” still didn’t quite manage to keep abreast of current events.

“Unfortunately, Mayor (Scott) King resigned right before this went to press, so I don’t have anything in here about Mayor Rudy Clay,” Lane told members of the Portage Historical Society on Aug. 15. “Other than that, it’s up to date.”

Lane estimated that about one-third of “Gary’s First Hundred Years” is new material. The history professor noted that he’s reworked much of his original content concerning former Gary mayor Richard Hatcher’s administration.

Lane said his original book originated as a series of columns on Gary’s history for the Post-Tribune. He didn’t realize initially that his work would lead to a book on the subject.

“If I had said straight off, ‘I’m going to write a book about Gary,’ I don’t think I would have been up to it,” Lane admitted. “But doing it a little piece at a time, I was able to come up with a pretty good body of material. And when I would get something horribly wrong, people would tell me, and I’ve been able to learn a lot that way.”

One of Lane’s teaching assignments upon his arrival at IU Northwest was the subject of American Urbanization. Lane said he realized immediately that Gary’s history dovetailed perfectly with that topic, giving the professor and his students an accessible textbook example of the history and process of urbanization.

“I was amazed to find that Gary was only 64 years old,” Lane recalled. “When I went out to do my research, I could actually go out and talk to people who had been here since the beginning.”

Lane told the audience that his book does not shy away from the sadder or more challenging aspects of Gary’s history or present reality, but added that he’s also tried to show the character and resiliency of the people who have lived in the Steel City past and present.

As to Gary’s future, Lane admitted his reluctance to speculate on when or how the city might achieve the revitalization for which so many residents, politicians and community leaders have worked and hoped. He noted that different city administrations have focused on various avenues of economic growth, such as airport development, gaming boats and minor-league sports.

“Historians hate to predict the future,” Lane said. “We’re much more comfortable discussing the past.”

Lane also offered those in attendance at his Portage discussion a brief synopsis of the history of Portage. Lane is a Portage resident, and he’s taught classes on the history and development of that Porter County city in the past. Lane noted that Portage’s greatest population expansion occurred in part because of the exodus of white residents from Gary in the late 1960s and early ’70s.

Lane said that his study of Gary’s history naturally led him to investigate the pasts of other Northwest Indiana communities. The history of Gary and its all-important steel mills is inexorably linked with the development of the entire region, he said.

“I consider myself a regional historian,” Lane said. “I like to study the whole region and how the communities have interacted.”

IU Northwest Notes of Distinction

Subir Bandyopadhyay, Ph.D., professor of marketing, was recently informed that two of his papers have been accepted for publication in the Journal of Academy of Business and Economics.

The first paper is titled, “The Missing Piece in the Puzzle: How Retail Atmospheric Can Improve Merchandise and Store Promotions.” The second paper, “Investigating the Factors Influencing Consumer Eating-Out Behavior,” was co-authored with Vijayan Pillai, Ph.D., professor of social work at the University of Texas.

Tanice Foltz, associate professor of sociology, recently presented her paper, “Drumming as Embodied Spirituality: Focus on Religious Venues,” at the annual meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion in Montreal.

Earl Jones, Ph.D., associate professor of African American Studies and SPEA, recently presented a paper titled “Critical Environmental Planning Issues for the African American Community through 2050” at the National Conference of The American Planning Association. The paper was invited by the Executive Committee of the Planning and the Black Community Division of the American Planning Association.
Concert jazzes up Gary centennial

The entire composition called for a 57-piece ensemble, but that didn’t stop composer Lisa DeSpain and four accompanying Gary musicians from jazzing up the city’s recent Centennial Celebration with an original symphonic jazz composition, “Sand and Steel,” commissioned for the occasion by Gary Art Works and the American Composers Forum.

DeSpain, along with Gary poet Libby Kincaid and performers from the Emerson Dance Alliance, wowed an audience of more than 200 who turned out at the Tamarack Hall theatre venue for the Gary Centennial event on July 16.

“I’ve spent the last four years with Gary on my mind,” said DeSpain, who was awarded the Gary Centennial commission in 2002. “When jazz migrated from New Orleans, this is where it came next. It was here long before it got to my neck of the woods, in New York. This music is very much a part of the community here, I think that’s why I was chosen for the commission.”

A graduate of the University of North Texas and the Manhattan School of Music, DeSpain is an active conductor, composer and pianist.

Since beginning work on “Sand and Steel,” DeSpain has spent considerable time in Gary working with music students, touring the city, and finding the inspiration for the sound of Steel City’s centennial. She said the essential theme of her composition is exactly that: the beauty and contrast of the Indiana Dunes and Lake Michigan shore and the industrial cityscape for which Gary is famous.

“It’s about the mechanical versus the natural, man-made versus God-made,” DeSpain told the audience.

DeSpain’s efforts for Gary are part of the Continental Harmony project, a leadership initiative of the American Composers Forum that pairs composers with communities to create distinctive musical compositions that celebrate that community’s character and heritage. DeSpain, a pianist, performed portions of her original concert, and some popular jazz standards, along with prominent Gary musicians Bruce Evans, Lannie Turner, Art Hoyle, and Dr. Odies Williams.

DeSpain also led the audience in singing “Happy Birthday” to Gary Mayor Rudy Clay, who attended the concert on his birthday.

Anyone who missed the July performance will have another chance to hear DeSpain’s “Sand and Steel” in its entirety this November. Gary Art Works is planning to sponsor a complete concert using an “Adopt-A-Musician” program that encourages area music patrons to “adopt” an orchestra member through a $350 donation to the project.

Those interested in contributing to the “Sand and Steel” concert performance can contact Gary Art Works at (219) 938-6760.

New faces in new places on campus

Every year, the campus community welcomes new faculty and staff to IU Northwest and bids farewell to others. Happily, many of our staff employees have chosen to relocate positions within the University, while our faculty members have continued to advance in their chosen fields.

Faculty members recently earning promotion to full professor include: William Dorin, Ph.D., professor of computer information systems; Charles Gallmeier, Ph.D., professor of sociology; and Patricia Lundberg, Ph.D., professor of English and women’s studies. Faculty members recently awarded tenure and promoted to associate professor include: Janice Grskovic, Ph.D., professor of education; Lori Montalban-Phelps, Ph.D., professor of communication; and Ana Osan, Ph.D., professor of Spanish. Also, Rajan Selladurai, Ph.D., associate professor of management, was recently awarded tenure.

Regarding recent staff appointments, Alumni Relations, in the Division of University Advancement, recently named its new director, Paulette Lafata-Johnson, who begins her new duties Sept. 1. Lafata-Johnson is an alumna of IU Bloomington, and she has worked at IU Northwest since 1978. Most recently, she worked in admissions, and has in the past worked in Financial Aid and Career Services. The Alumni Relations office is excited to have someone of Lafata-Johnson’s experience joining that staff.

Linda Sharma, who was hired last summer as the secretary/receptionist for the Division of University Advancement, has also taken a new position within that division. Sharma is the new donor and alumni events coordinator. She began her new duties July 1. Sharma earned an undergraduate degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Prior to coming to IU Northwest, Sharma worked at Dutchess Community College in New York.

In the Bursar’s Office, Sandra Mendoza has been appointed as manager of student accounts, which was formerly the bursar position. She will be responsible for managing and coordinating the operations of the Office of the Bursar and Parking Services. Mendoza has been employed in the bursar’s office for nine years. She received her B.G.S. from IU Northwest in May 2006, and she begins work on her master’s degree this fall.

Recent departures from the IU Northwest family include Associate Prof. Karen Venditti from the School of Education, Instructor Michael James Certa from Computer Information Systems, and Accounts Payable Clerk Shirley Kozikowski.
### SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

#### Current

“Symbols and Myths,” through Sept. 22, Gallery for Contemporary Art, Savannah Center. Exhibit of oil works by Cuban artist Paul Sierra. No reception is planned.

“Cuba Va!”, through Sept. 22, Gallery Northwest at Tamarack Hall. Exhibit of artwork obtained and photographs taken in Cuba by Prof. Ruth Needleman of the IU Northwest Labor Studies Department. Reception for Needleman will take place Sept. 13 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Tamarack.

Fall Computing Workshops, various dates. The IU Northwest Information Technology Department is making computer-training classes available to faculty, staff and students through September and October. Workshop topics include: Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, FrontPage, Photoshop, Illustrator, Dreamweaver, Fireworks, Flash, and Acrobat. Check out the complete schedule at [http://www.iun.edu/~train/sched/](http://www.iun.edu/~train/sched/). All workshops except “Computing Basics” require at least a basic knowledge of Windows.

Reservations are recommended, as seating is limited. Workshops with fewer than three reservations may be canceled. To reserve a seat in a workshop of your choice, contact Jackie Coven, IT training coordinator, at 980-6960, or visit her office at Hawthorn 108B.

Monday, Sept. 11

“Cuba in Motion: Culture, Politics and Change,” 6 p.m., Savannah Auditorium. Prof. Ruth Needleman will give a brief discussion about Cuba, followed by a screening of the documentary “Fidel.” Start time is tentative and may move back to 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 13

**IU Golf Outing**. Innisbrook Country Club, Merrillville, 10 a.m. registration, 12:30 lunch, 2:30 tee time. The Northwest Chapter of the Indiana University Alumni Association hosts its first annual 18-hole golf event. Registration is $175. Call Larry Alt at (219) 757-3532, or e-mail him at altl@8105georgia.com for more information.

### Wednesday, Sept. 20

**Non-Profit Institute Open House and Resource Fair**, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., second floor, Library Conference Center. The NPI, a joint effort between the IU Northwest Center for Regional Excellence, GRANTS Inc. and Lake Area United Way, will host this event for non-profit board members, staff and volunteers, and for vendors who offer services to non-profits.

### Thursday, Sept. 14

**Puerto Rican History and Cultural Celebration**, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Savannah Auditorium. Author and speaker Esmeralda Santiago will give a presentation during this event, which is co-sponsored by the Office of Diversity and Equity and the Latino Studies Program.

**Friday, Sept. 15**

**Employee Picnic**, 12 p.m. to 2 p.m., Savannah Gymnasium.

### Tuesday, Sept. 19

**Asia Day Celebration**, 12 p.m. to 2 p.m., Moraine Student Center Quadrangle. The campus is invited to celebrate Asia Day with food, dance, music, arts, and crafts. Co-sponsored by the School of Business and Economics, and the Asian-American Student Association of IU Northwest.

**Women’s Studies Book Discussion**, 12 p.m., Savannah Center, Room 207. The discussion will focus on the book “Maybe Baby.”

### Wednesday, Sept. 27

**Student Services Day**, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., IU Northwest Quad. Sponsored by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Services, this event gives students a chance to learn about services and opportunities provided by the Student Services Division. There will be food, prizes and information.

U.S. News and World Report has ranked Indiana University Northwest at the top in terms of ethnic and economic diversity among master’s-level universities in Indiana, according to the magazine’s latest annual ranking of the nation’s colleges.

U.S. News gave IU Northwest a diversity-index rating of .53 on a 1.0 scale, the best of any master’s-level institution in Indiana. In terms of economic diversity, IU Northwest tied with the University of Indianapolis for best in the state among master’s-level schools.

Overall, IU Northwest ranked fourth on the list of ethnically diverse, master’s-level institutions in the Midwest. The Gary campus of Indiana University, where the student body is 22 percent African-American and 11 percent Latino, finished just behind Roosevelt University in Illinois (.57) and just ahead of Lincoln University in Missouri (.52). By comparison, the top-ranked school for ethnic diversity on the list of Midwestern master’s-level institutions was Northeastern Illinois University, with a diversity-index rating of .66. Park University in Missouri placed second with a .59 rating.

IU Northwest also rated highly among its Midwestern peers in economic diversity, a category that is becoming increasingly important in terms of measuring low-income students’ access to higher education, according to U.S. News. The magazine gauges this category based on the percentage of each school’s students that receives federal Pell Grant assistance. Pell Grants generally are awarded to students whose families earn less than $40,000 annually.

Thirty-six percent of IU Northwest students received Pell Grants during the 2004-05 academic year. This tied the school with the University of Indianapolis and three other schools for 24th on the list of 130 Midwestern master’s-level schools.

“Such diversity is essential to our mission of higher education. We will continue to strengthen the academic, social and cultural fabric of our campus by extending educational opportunities to quality students from all backgrounds and walks of life.”