Toni Lieteau joins Univ. Advancement
PR professional appointed as division’s new associate vice chancellor

Before joining Indiana University Northwest as associate vice chancellor for University Advancement, Toni Lieteau was not aware that Gary, Indiana had a college campus to call its own. Like most people in the Chicagoland area, Lieteau had heard about the less flattering aspects of Gary’s reputation, but upon visiting the campus she was thrilled to learn that IU Northwest is helping to lead Gary into a revitalized future.

Lieteau, a Chicago native and Richton Park, Ill. resident, believes the same positives that enticed her to continue her career at IU’s Gary campus can also help persuade other working professionals and business owners to join a city that is beginning to flex its renewed potential.

“This is an absolutely lovely campus,” Lieteau said during a Sept. 18 interview with the Northwest News. “I think Gary is back on the move, and I believe IU Northwest is taking the lead as a partner in the community and showing people that this is a good place to be.”

Although University Advancement is charged with promoting IU Northwest to donors, alumni, potential students, and the community at large, Lieteau said it’s important for every member of the campus community to extol the University’s merits as an educator and community partner.

“I call it being an ambassador,” Lieteau said. “I think everybody is going to have to be an ambassador for the University. Any connections you have with other people, you need to see that as an opportunity to talk about IU Northwest and the positive things that are happening here. Our department can take care of the print side of it and do other things to market the University, but it’s everybody’s responsibility to get the message out.”

Lieteau came to IU Northwest from Near North Health Service Corporation in Chicago. She has worked in the public-relations end of the healthcare industry for the past 11 years.

Friends, colleagues, students pay tribute to Gary Martin

The loss of Gary Martin to a tragic downstate bicycle accident on Aug. 22 came as a blow to the entire Northwest Indiana community, and the IU Northwest campus felt that loss as keenly as anyone. His students here lost a teacher, mentor and advocate, while faculty and staff members who knew Martin lost a good-natured colleague and friend.

More than a month after Martin’s death, that loss continues to reverberate throughout the halls of the School of Public and Environmental Affairs and across the IU Northwest community.

On Sept. 15, many of Martin’s friends, students and colleagues gathered outside the SPEA offices in the Dunes Medical/Professional Building to celebrate the life of the man who had touched their lives in so many ways. As slides of Martin scrolled across a projection screen, people recounted their favorite memories of him.

“If you let Gary in your life, he was there forever,” said staff member and longtime Glen Park resident Mary Lee, who worked in SPEA for five years before moving over to Student Services. She recalled that even after she had left SPEA, Martin would visit her in Student Services to say hello.

“If I wasn’t there, he would leave notes on my desk,” Lee said. “They would say, ‘I was here. You were not.’ That was how I knew that Gary had been there.”

Martin, a longtime Gary police officer, taught at IU Northwest for 30 years, beginning in 1976 and continuing in either a full or part-time capacity since then. His appointment as Lake County police chief in 2002 forced him to cut back his class load, but his recent retirement from that post had cleared the way for Martin to return to campus as full-time senior lecturer this fall.

Martin’s friend and SPEA colleague, Prof. Jean Victor Poulard, said that, although Martin’s background was in law enforcement and was not strictly academic, in his opinion the IU Northwest instructor represented the best aspects of academia: a thorough knowledge of his subject and a sincere devotion to his students. He recalled that Martin would always tackle huge piles of essays near a semester’s end, determined to give careful and thoughtful feedback to his students.

“He was a true academic,” Poulard said. “He was more of an academic than many other academics I know. I was looking so much forward to his return here.”

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Autumn decided to make an early appearance on Sept. 19, but the chilly weather didn’t deter hundreds of students, faculty, staff and visitors from enjoying the food, music and cultural presentations at the Asia Day festival that was held in the Hawthorn Quadrangle. (Above) Chicago musicians (from left) Anand Susarla and Patric Marks perform for the crowd using a pair of traditional Indian instruments. Susarla is playing the tabla, an Indian percussion instrument, and Marks is playing the sitar, a guitar-like instrument. Marks gives lessons on the sitar in Chicago, and he said members of The Beatles once traveled to India to learn the instrument. (Top right) IU Northwest pre-med student Rohini Chatterjee performs a traditional Indian dance, the Dohl Vajta, to a contemporary Indian musical accompaniment. (Right) IU Northwest students Martin Velazquez (foreground) and Rodolfo Herrera (background) perform a delicate balancing act as part of a Filipino folk dance, as their dance partners, Jasmine Dayon and Irene Carley, look on. These and other dances were complemented by yoga and martial arts demonstrations, a fashion show featuring styles from many Asian countries, and a variety of musical performances.
Director of Developmental Mathematics Jon Becker (shown standing) handles hosting duties while decked out in full Mardi Gras regalia during the annual employee picnic on Sept. 15.

Fred Jackson, regional coordinator for the 21st Century Scholars Program at IU Northwest, and Evelyn Gilbert from Student Services, cut into a king cake in search of a baby during the annual employee picnic on Sept. 15, as 21st Century Scholar Kwanika Noble looks on. King cakes and the search for plastic babies baked into them are a time-honored element of Mardi Gras tradition.

Dean Dorothy Ige of the IU Northwest College of Arts and Sciences was one of many members of the University faculty and staff who helped to bring the spirit of New Orleans' most famous celebration to the Savannah Center Gymnasium by sporting colorful Mardi Gras costumes, complete with beads and mask.

Mardi Gras madness
seizes Savannah Center!

Prof. Garrett Cope of the IU Northwest Division of Continuing Studies (left) dispenses tickets and good tidings to University employees from the registration table at the annual employee picnic. Participants who didn't dress up for the event were given hats and masks along with their food tickets.

IU Northwest Chancellor Bruce Bergland, dressed in festive Mardi Gras attire, serves as master of ceremonies for the annual employee picnic on Sept. 15. Bergland and members of his staff kicked off the event by strolling around the track in the Savannah Center Gymnasium and tossing beads to the employees below.
NPI earns kudos at open house
Non-Profit Institute debuts to acclaim from public officials, area 501-c3s

On Sept. 20, members of the Northwest Indiana non-profit community turned out at Indiana University Northwest to learn what the Non-Profit Institute could do for them and for all area 501-c3 organizations. The reaction was heartily positive, as employees, volunteers and local public officials all praised the grant and networking resources provided by the NPI, which is a joint effort between the IU Northwest Center for Regional Excellence, the Lake Area United Way (LAUW), GRANTS Inc. and the Northwest Indiana Quality of Life Council.

Gary Mayor Rudy Clay, whose city is home to about 500 of the more than 2,000 non-profit groups in Lake County, toured the resource fair and pronounced it a vital and important resource for the region. “In a word, phenomenal,” Clay said. “It’s needed, and it’s appreciated. I am exhilarated by what I’ve seen here this afternoon. I would like to kind of partner on this with (IU Northwest) and the city, and maybe give it a little more support in the future.”

The open house was the NPI’s first public event, but the Institute plans to host regular seminars, training programs and networking sessions for non-profit personnel. The goal, according to Dan Lowery, executive director of the Quality of Life Council and chair of the NPI Advisory Board, is to unite the non-profit community for the common good.

“The Northwest Indiana non-profit sector has grown in size,” Lowery told the crowd during a preliminary address by NPI board members. “It has also grown in sophistication. And the demand for the services that we provide is growing by leaps and bounds. It’s far outstripping our capacity, our financial resources and our human resources. That’s why it’s great to have a not-for-profit center here.”

Lowery, a former IU Northwest professor who now is with Calumet College, said he was pleased that his former campus is involved with the NPI.

“I can’t think of a more appropriate place to have this,” Lowery said.

One major goal of the NPI is to provide a central clearinghouse for information and networking resources related to non-profit groups. There was plenty of networking going on Sept. 20, as representatives from different non-profit groups and for-profit vendors swapped business cards, exchanged ideas, and, in some cases, met for the first time people with whom they had already been working.

Valerie Golden and Becky Ashcraft, community relations managers for Barnes & Noble Booksellers in Merrillville and Valparaiso, respectively, said the resource fair allowed them to spread the word about the various fundraising programs and other offers their company makes to non-profit groups.

“I’m getting to meet people that I’ve already worked with or talked to on the phone, but have never actually seen until now,” Ashcraft said.

This networking doesn’t just benefit non-profit personnel, but also the people they serve. Many times, people who seek assistance for one problem also need help with other issues, and it helps if non-profit employees or volunteers know what other groups are available to help.

That, said Gloria Manamela, HIV services coordinator for the Merrillville-based non-profit Brothers Uplifting Brothers Inc., is why she was able to help out a homeless man who had come to her organization in search of housing assistance.

“This man called me and said he was going to be evicted,” recalled Manamela, whose organization promotes HIV awareness and provides testing and other services for HIV-positive men. “The girlfriend was pregnant, and they didn’t know where they were going to go. He didn’t know what we did, but he just saw that we were called Brothers Uplifting Brothers, so he called to see if we could help him. When I told him what we did, he said, ‘I’m not HIV positive. I just need some help.’ So I got on the phone and got someone who could help him. A week and a half later, I think, they had someplace to stay.”

“Many of our clients do not have just one need, they have multiple needs,” she said. “This helps me to know where I can refer them to.”

Lou Martinez, president of Lake Area United Way (LAUW), cuts a ribbon at the IU Northwest Library and Data Analysis Center to dedicate the official opening of the Non-Profit Institute on Sept. 20. Also pictured are NPI Advisory Board members (from left) Sue Eleutorio, executive director of GRANTS Inc.; Patricia Lundberg, executive director of the IU Northwest Center for Regional Excellence; Dan Lowery, executive director of the Northwest Indiana Quality of Life Council; Renae Brantley, of Health Visions Midwest; IU Northwest Prof. Rick Hug; and Karen Evans, interim dean and director of the IU Northwest School of Public and Environmental Policy. Not pictured, but participating in the ribbon-cutting, are Alex Monanteras, LAUW vice president of fiscal and administrative affairs; Nancy Johnson, Legacy Foundation president; Herb Grulke, GRANTS Inc. board president; and Tim Sutherland, director of the IU Northwest Library.

Photo by Christopher Sheid/Northwest News
Manamela was one of 78 vendors who attended the Sept. 20 event, and more than 100 visitors came out to participate. Lou Martinez, president of the LAUW, said the turnout proved that the NPI had come at the right time.

“The turnout today is fabulous, to see that this concept is being embraced,” Martinez said.

As part of the resource fair, more than 50 people participated in the NPI’s Grantstation class, where they learned how to search for grant opportunities using an online database. That workshop was filled to capacity, but those not in the class still had the chance to “play” with the system using open computers set up for that purpose.

Anthrice Bray, who attended the resource fair as a representative for the Gary branch of the NAACP, said many nonprofit groups contact him looking for grant opportunities. He said the NPI’s grant-writing resources would be a major boon to the region’s nonprofits.

“This could help a lot of people,” Bray said. “I believe it’s going to be well-utilized.”

Sue Eleutorio, executive director of GRANTS Inc. and project manager for the NPI, told the crowd that the Institute came about in part because the people involved understand and appreciate the importance of the work that local nonprofits do.

“The work you do, you may think that nobody appreciates it,” she said. “Well, let me tell you, I appreciate it. I hear about it every day. I read it in the papers and see it in the work you do in the community.”

Gavin Zapata, a representative for The Crisis Center in Gary, said he hopes to see many such events from the NPI in the future.

“This is an excellent opportunity for networking, for information, and just for creating a sense of community,” Zapata said. “I think these kinds of events should be held very often.”

The IU Northwest Non-Profit Institute is located on the second floor of the IU Northwest Library Conference Center. For more information about NPI programs, services or upcoming seminars, call (219) 981-5673, or send an e-mail to npi@iun.edu.

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“I liked healthcare, except that it could get a little depressing as things escalated and you saw that people couldn’t get the services they needed or wanted,” she said.

Lieteau also has considerable prior experience in public relations for higher education. She has worked for the University of Pittsburgh, and in Los Angeles for UCLA and for the Loyola Marymount University Law School. Lieteau said she was thrilled to resume working in higher education at IU Northwest.

“I have been in this field my entire professional career,” she said. “I love marketing and public relations. I don’t think there is anything else I’d rather be doing. I’ve been behind the camera and in front of the camera.” Lieteau said. “I’ve been a reporter, and I’ve done public relations. I’ve done layout, and I’ve been an editor, I don’t think there is any aspect of communications that I have not touched on.”

Lieteau, who obtained her bachelor’s degrees in journalism and political science from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh and her master’s degree in communications/public relations from Point Park University in that same city, also has college-level teaching experience. She has taught English composition and creative writing at Columbia College and DeVry Institute of Technology in Chicago, so Lieteau understands some of the challenges instructors face in the classroom.

For some students, she said, the biggest obstacle was a lack of prior preparation in English. For others, the culprit was a disinterest in writing or a failure to understand the subject’s importance. But Lieteau nonetheless enjoyed her direct contact with young learners. She said that she would like to see IU Northwest reach out even more to young people in classrooms across Northwest Indiana to get them started thinking about going to college — and about going to college here — early in their high school careers.

The point isn’t just to promote the University, Lieteau said, but also to broaden students’ perceptions about the career paths they can follow in higher education.

“I’d like to set up a program where we have people go into high school classes with freshmen and sophomores and talk to them about college,” Lieteau said. “If we can get to them as sophomores, maybe by their junior year they will already know that they want to come to IU Northwest. I am sure that we have professors on campus who would love the chance to speak to students about their programs and research.”

Lieteau said that she’d like for University Advancement to establish contacts not just with media outlets and alumni, but also with political, community and school leaders. Advancing the University’s image is a collective and cumulative effort, she said, one that requires persistent and enthusiastic delivery of the IU Northwest message to all potential audiences.

“It’s just getting our message out continually,” she said. “We’ve got to keep focusing attention on all the good that we’re doing here.

“I’m excited about this place,” Lieteau added. “I think we’re going to do some wonderful things here.”

Lieteau’s office is Sycamore 200. She can be reached at (219) 980-4232, or via e-mail at lieteau@iun.edu.
General strategies for dealing with racial, ethnic and gender diversity in the classroom

CHARLOTTE REED, Ed.D
CETL Executive Director, Professor of Urban Education

The IU Northwest Shared Vision states that “... we value the complete richness of the human family, we embrace diversity in all its facets and aspire to the full nobility of our shared humanity.” These beliefs should carry over into our interactions with students in our classrooms. Barbara Gross Davis, in her chapter “Diversity and Complexity in the Classroom: Considerations of Race, Ethnicity and Gender,” in the 1999 book “Tools for Teaching” (Jossey-Bass: Berkeley, CA), acknowledges the complexity of addressing diversity in the classroom and offers the following general strategies for consideration:

1) Recognize any biases or stereotypes you may have absorbed;
2) Treat each student as an individual, and respect each student for he or she is;
3) Rectify any language patterns or case examples that exclude or demean any groups;
4) Do your best to be sensitive to terminology;
5) Get a sense of how students feel about the cultural climate in your classroom.

As we aspire to embrace diversity, we must overcome our stereotypes and biases as they relate to race, gender and ethnicity. Drawing on teaching practices across the country, as well as the educational and sociological literature, Davis poses the following tactics for overcoming stereotypes and biases:

1) Become more informed about the history and culture of groups other than your own;
2) Convey the same level of respect and confidence in the abilities of all your students;
3) Be evenhanded in the way you acknowledge students’ good work;
4) Whenever possible, select texts and readings whose language is gender-neutral and free of stereotypes;
5) Do not assume that all students will recognize cultural literacy or historical references familiar to you;
6) Consider students’ needs when assigning evening and weekend work;
7) Encourage all students to participate in class discussions;
8) Monitor your own behavior when responding to students;
9) Be sensitive to students whose first language is not English;
10) Advise students to explore perspectives outside of their own experiences;
11) Give assignments and exams that recognize students’ diverse backgrounds and special interests; and
12) Provide opportunities for all students to get to know each other.

For more information on creating the learning climate espoused in our Shared Vision, attend the CETL Workshop, “Embracing Our Diversity,” with Dr. Peter Frederick, on Oct. 6. This presentation is made possible by funding from the Office of Diversity and Equity.

Grants available

The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) is pleased to announce “Professional Development Grants 2006-2007.” As these grants were made possible through the IU Northwest Teaching and Classroom Technology Committee, CETL wishes to promote faculty excellence in teaching and improvement in student learning. By providing professional development grants, CETL encourages innovative pedagogical projects and programs enhancing instructional pedagogy, promoting a vibrant teaching community at IU Northwest, and improving student learning. All full-time and part-time faculty members are eligible for these grants. Projects must have the potential for significant impact on student learning and development.

Last year CETL awarded 12 grants to faculty members for their projects, and this year will award 8 to 10 grants, ranging from $300 to $600 per project. The deadline for these grants is Oct. 13, 2006 at 5 p.m. For project categories and additional information on the “Professional Development Grants 2006-2007,” visit www.iun.edu/~cetl or contact CETL at (219) 980-6755 (phone) or (219) 980-6762 (fax), or e-mail us at cetl@iun.edu.

Marianne Malyj, director of purchasing and campus services at IU Northwest, was one of 12 featured panelists and a booth exhibitor at the Northwest Indiana Compliance Conference, held Aug. 3, 2006 at the Gary Genesis Convention Center. Her presentation focused on IU Northwest’s policies on contracting with M/W/D/S/LBE vendors and how they can comply with IU Northwest policies.

Patricia Buckler, assistant professor of English, has co-edited the book “The Scrapbook in American Life,” with Susan Tucker and Katherine Ott. The book recently received the Pioneer America Society’s Allen G. Noble Book Award as the best-edited book in the field of North American Material Culture. The Society is a national, non-profit organization that encourages the study and preservation of buildings, sites, structures, and objects representing North American history and material culture.

Anja Matwijkiw, Ph.D., assistant professor of philosophy, was elected as a member at large of the Shared Ethics Advisory Commission. The main objective of this is to design ethics training for all levels of government in Crown Point, Highland and Munster.

Also, in August, Matwijkiw made several contributions to the 23rd International Social Philosophy Conference at University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia. The main theme for the conference was “International Law and Justice.” On Aug. 3, Matwijkiw served as the chair for the panel on “Rules and Norms.” Also, on Aug. 5, she presented a paper for the panel on “International Norms.” The title of this was “The Reverse Revenge Norm.”
IU Northwest remembers Sept. 11

IU Northwest junior and ROTC cadet James Hazzard helps to prepare an American flag that was raised to half staff in honor of victims of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. The flag-raising took place during a quiet campus ceremony of remembrance on Sept. 11, 2006. Kwesi Aggrey, Ph.D., vice chancellor for academic affairs, told the group of 100 or so students, faculty and staff that the infamous attacks on the Pentagon and World Trade Center affected not just America but also the world, since citizens from many countries were killed in the event.

‘Blogs’ the topic for Oct. 13 convocation

This year’s convocation program will focus on the Web log (blog) phenomenon. On Oct. 13, two speakers will discuss the relationship between academic freedom and “blogging.”

What happens, for instance, when college professors, whose academic work is carefully scrutinized by peers and administrators, express themselves in this freely available format? What implications does blogging have for students whose ideas and opinions online may be more extreme or unguarded than those expressed in term papers? How do the concepts of privacy and confidentiality apply to blogging?

On hand to address these subjects will be Daniel W. Drezner, Ph.D., associate professor at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, and Eszter Hargittai, Ph.D., assistant professor of sociology and communication studies at Northwestern University and a 2006-07 Fellow at the Stanford Center for Advanced Study in Behavioral Sciences. Drezner is a former University of Chicago political science professor who received his doctorate in political science from Stanford; Hargittai received her Ph.D. in sociology from Princeton University.

Both speakers are active bloggers who have written and lectured on the blogging phenomenon. Each will deliver a 20-minute convocation address, and then will participate in a question-and-answer session.

The convocation will run from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. in the Savannah Center Auditorium. The public is welcome. For more information, contact Robin Hass Birky, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs, at rohass@ius.edu.

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Poulard also noted that Martin had played a pivotal role in luring the Northwest Indiana Law Enforcement Training Academy to its current home at IU Northwest.

Gary Martin’s appeal as an instructor was such that many students would take an entire semester of his classes if they could, according to Prof. Jacqueline Mullaney of SPEA.

“Those of us who are advisors in SPEA would have to tell our students to spread Gary Martin around,” she said. “They would come in with their schedules, and they would have every class Gary taught. We said, ‘If you take all of Gary’s classes now, in year two or year three, you’ll have no Gary Martin.’”

Martin’s students attested to the fact that he could employ classroom tactics that simply would not have worked for anyone else. Junior criminal justice major Troy Czarnecki recalled that Martin had a distinctive yet good-natured ploy for calling his class to attention when the initial classroom chatter had overstayed its welcome.

“He would say, ‘Good afternoon,’ and people would just keep talking,” Czarnecki said. “He would look down over his glasses and say, ‘Damn heathens, I said good afternoon!’

“He was just a dynamic person and a great teacher,” Czarnecki added. “It didn’t matter how bad a day you were having, if you went to Gary’s class or saw him around campus, he could just bring your whole day up, and by the time class was over you’d be smiling. He always let you know how happy he was to see you.”

Martin’s classroom quirks extended to exam days, too. Criminal justice senior Sydney Hammen recalled that Martin liked to add an extra element of distraction to his final exams.

“He was the most annoying person to take a final with,” Hammen said. “He liked to make noise during the whole time you were taking the test. He proceeded (one time) to tap a pencil on his desk for the whole two hours.”

Yet, because Martin’s students held him in such high esteem, such behaviors only added to the instructor’s irreverent charm.

Humorous antics aside, Martin’s students and colleagues all praised him as someone who cared deeply about his students’ lives and the choices they made.

“Many students would come to him who didn’t know what direction they wanted to take (in school),” said Prof. James Lane. “He would always help them out.”

Charlotte Reed, executive director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, asked those gathered at the informal memorial to focus on the good things Martin had accomplished in his life, and not to dwell on the unfortunate manner in which he died. She reminded everyone that, at the time of his death, Martin was engaged in an act of kindness for others by participating in a charity bike ride to raise funds for the families of fallen officers.

“He died giving,” Reed said. “His last act was an act of giving.”
IU Northwest to host major arts conference in November

On Nov. 2 through Nov. 4, IU Northwest will host “Drawing the Lines: International Perspectives on Urban Renewal.” This conference will feature international keynote speakers, roundtable discussions, public forums, an urban poetry panel, and other events designed to analyze what role the arts can play in the revitalization of cities and towns.

As part of this ambitious conference, IU Northwest is encouraging participation from the Northwest Indiana community. In addition to several internationally renowned experts, participants will include: local policymakers, legislators and civic leaders; artists and social and cultural entrepreneurs; city planners and economic development officials; and arts and humanities organizations.

“Drawing the Lines” takes as its inspiration the city of Bilbao, Spain, which transformed itself from a depressed steel town to a modern, economically thriving arts community in just 10 years. Participants in “Drawing the Lines” will discuss ways to achieve this same type of rebirth in Gary and throughout Northwest Indiana. Anyone who has a personal or professional interest in urban renewal or the arts is encouraged to attend.

“The idea for the ‘Drawing the Lines’ conference came about after having learned about the ‘Bilbao Model,’” said Prof. Eva Mendieta, associate professor of modern languages at IU Northwest, who recently spent two months in Spain conducting networking and research for the conference.

“It will be an invaluable experience to bring together these leaders and scholars from communities that have undergone profound urban renewal, along with leaders in communities that are undergoing change, to share their best practices for urban redevelopment,” Mendieta said. “They will provide us with information on the debatable effects on the quality of life in the communities that the arts influence.”

Registration costs $245 for all three days. Single-day sessions cost $80 per day on Nov. 2 and 3, and $40 for Nov. 4, which includes lunch. The cost for multi-day registration will increase to $295 after Oct. 1.

College students and Gary, Ind. residents may attend “Drawing the Lines” for free, although lunch is not included with free admission. For more information, or to register for “Drawing the Lines,” visit the conference Web site at www.iun.edu/~dtlines.