Advances

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By Abby Hayes, Senior English Major

New Liberal Arts Degrees Provide Options for Grads and Undergrads

This year departments and programs in the IU School of Liberal Arts introduced four new degrees and also welcomed students into the School’s first fully online certificate program.

Two of the new degrees, the BAs in Philanthropic Studies and in Africana Studies, arise out of student interest in expanded opportunities in Philanthropy and Black Studies.

BA in Philanthropic Studies

IUPUI is home to one of the nation’s leading Philanthropic Studies programs and one of the largest collections of books and archives on philanthropy in the world. The Center on Philanthropy offers several academic programs, including an MA, an executive MA and, most recently, the School’s first doctoral degree. Starting in Fall 2010, undergrads interested in philanthropy, volunteerism, and the nonprofit sector will also have an opportunity to earn a degree in this new field of study. Courses in the program examine issues such as the ethics and values of philanthropy, the American philanthropic tradition, giving and volunteering, contemporary issues in philanthropy, fundraising for nonprofits, and building civil society.

“Many of today’s students want an education and a career that lets them use their hearts as well as their heads,” says Patrick M. Rooney, Professor of Economics and Philanthropic Studies and Executive Director of the Center on Philanthropy. “There is now a degree that will enable them to turn their passion for helping others into their profession.”

BA in Africana Studies

With the enhanced institutional support that brought several new faculty to IUPUI as Public Scholars in African American Studies, the Africana Studies program is now offering a bachelor’s degree. The major has its core in several brand new courses, including a capstone seminar and Empowerment, Struggle, and Resistance in the African Diaspora. The curriculum grounds students in the essential theory and basic information about people of African descent and serves as a foundation a range of careers and advanced study in the discipline.

Program Director and History Professor Monroe Little says, “The new degree is international in scope and provides students with opportunities to study the life, history, and culture of African-descended people throughout the world.”

Certificate - Human Communication in a Mediated World

Undergraduates across disciplines can benefit from the online certificate Human Communication in a Mediated World offered by the Department of Communication Studies.

“This totally online certificate program features communication courses in group, interpersonal, listening, media literacy, persuasion, rhetoric, and conflict,” says program director Jennifer Cochrane. “It focuses on enhancing mediated and face-to-face communication skills that will complement most any major and career choice.”

PhD in Economics

Utilizing IUPUI’s strengths in the life sciences and philanthropy, the Economics Department is now offering a doctoral program—the School’s second—in which students can focus on either Health Economics or Economics of Nonprofits/Philanthropy.

Department Chair and Professor Paul Carlin says, “The expertise of our faculty in these two fields makes the PhD in Economics degree program unique and highly desirable for students with established interests in these specialized areas of economics. He continues, “Students in the program will receive substantial individual attention from the faculty who are internationally recognized in these fields.”

MA in Applied Anthropology

The MA in Applied Anthropology is constructed around a set of core courses together with independent research and internships. Students in the program learn how to use anthropological theories and methods with the goal of solving real world problems.

“The master’s program,” says Graduate Director and Associate Professor Susan Hyatt, “is distinctive because it combines the anthropological sub-disciplines of archaeology, biological anthropology, and cultural anthropology. Another notable feature of the program is its emphasis on civic engagement and community collaboration in student and faculty research.”

Liberal Arts Dean Bill Blomquist says of the new offerings, “We are really pleased to have these new degree options for our students. Each of the new offerings adds an attractive choice for students, providing them the opportunity to work with excellent faculty, engage with important topics, and have real and lasting impacts in their communities. The degrees will add richly to the educational and intellectual repertoire of the IU School of Liberal Arts.”

The Anthropology MA, Economics PhD, BA in Philanthropic Studies, and BA in Africana Studies will all welcome their first classes of students in Fall 2010.

To learn more about these programs, visit http://liberalarts.iupui.edu and use the Quick Links navigation on the left side of the page to visit the department of your choice.
As donors of the most CGAs in IU Foundation history, the Reichmanns remain a model for others. The IU Foundation’s Carmella Hise says, “The Reichmanns are truly the most generous people I have ever worked with. Eb was passionate about making gifts and often recruited others to do the same. He had a zest for everything he did and giving was no exception.” Hise, who worked with the couple on their gift planning continues, “He often would send a check for a new gift before I’d completed paperwork for the previous one.”

Reichmann and wife Ruth partnered with good friends and IUPUI faculty Giles and Dolores Hoyt to create the Hoyt-Reichmann Chair and to ensure that German and German American Studies would be well positioned at IUPUI in perpetuity. Each has held leadership positions in the IUPUI Max Kade German American Center and continue their involvement in retirement.

Because of the Reichmanns’ ability to give during their lifetimes with the CGA tool and a match provided by the university during the Campaign for IUPUI, the Reichmanns and Hoyts were able to see their generosity come to fruition. With the appointment of Daniel Nützel last summer as the first full-time holder of the Chair, the friends’ shared commitment to IUPUI and to the study of German language and culture gained a new champion. Nützel, an Associate Professor of German, is also Director of the Max Kade Center.

In recognition of the dedication and generosity of these two remarkable couples, the School of Liberal Arts has awarded them the 2010 Spirit of Philanthropy Award which will be presented in April.

**Gift Annuities Let Donors Give & Receive**

The Reichmanns took advantage of Charitable Gift Annuities (CGAs) to satisfy two goals: supporting IUPUI, specifically the Hoyt-Reichmann Chair in German American Studies and German Language and Culture, and providing a guaranteed fixed income for the rest of their lives.

CGA payout rates are based on the age or ages of the annuitants, the older you are at the time the CGA is established, the higher the rate, and part of each payment is usually tax-free income. To learn more about how you can establish a CGA to support your favorite IUPUI program or to receive a personalized illustration, please contact Estacia Medlen Brandenburg, Associate Director of Gift Planning, at 317.278.5653 or esmbrand@iupui.edu.

Charitable Gift Annuity rates are subject to change and may not be available in your state. Please call for a current illustration.

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**Indiana University Charitable Gift Annuity Rates**

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**IU SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS**

IDEAS. INSPIRATION. IMPACT.

Things are looking up for the IU School of Liberal Arts, especially if you happen to be driving or walking onto the IUPUI campus from Michigan Street. Take it kind of slow and look up! You’ll see why we are still at the heart of IUPUI’s entire educational enterprise. We are all about IDEAS. Our community, students and faculty find INSPIRATION in what they do. And these ideas, this inspiration have IMPACT. Everyday.
**All Rapped up in Putting Music to Work**

By Abby Hayes, Senior English Major

On his MySpace page, Matt Markoff appears in a suit and tie nearly as often as he shows up in jeans and a baggie hooded sweatshirt. This is because Matt is a lawyer and he is also M-Eighty, a rapper. He works behind the stage and performs on it. With degrees in Political Science and Law, he combines the academic and creative, the artistic and practical, landing Matt where he is today.

Matt, who has a rare gift for freestyle rap, has been rapping since he was in middle school. After he graduated from IUPUI with a BA in Political Science and a minor in International Studies, he moved to California to earn a law degree, thinking that he would get out of the music industry for good. Once he was on the West Coast, the music industry drew him back on tour promoting their new album. Matt mainly took care of Canibus' practical issues, like performance schedules, driving routes, and legal "road bumps" that bands sometimes hit while they're on the road.

Though most of his tour duties with Canibus were behind the scenes, he admits to sometimes slipping back into the role of M-Eighty and performing "Bust Back" for the crowd. Indeed, Matt's own group, M-Eighty and Almighty, will release a new album this year. This means that he'll get to take off his business suit and spend more time back on stage, having fun while performing to promote the album.

This past semester, Matt combined his talents as a promoter and freestyle rapper, raising money to build a secondary school in Nigeria. In an event held at the IUPUI Campus Center, he rapped for 9 hours and 15 minutes, breaking the Guinness world record for the longest continual freestyle rap.

Matt came up with the philanthropic idea with the help of Professor Scott Pegg. In 2003 Pegg inspired Matt and the rest of his seminar class to think about ways they could help the world's poorest people by sharing his experiences.

Pegg talked of how he, with his wife, Tijen, has initiated the Nigerian schools project after traveling to Africa. Today, Pegg's leadership of the program continues and the project is now administered through the Indianapolis-based Timmy Foundation.

Matt's goal is to raise enough money for a new secondary school in one of the Nigerian communities. He's raised about $2,000, but needs about $15,000 more. Building on funds from his performance, Matt hopes to collect more money by speaking about the project on tour and seeking foundation grants.

Matt likes raising funds for good causes so his fans know there are artists out there who "have a soul." He says that his fans and supporters know he is "someone that generally cares about music." His heart for the music really does come through, and anyone who talks to Matt will quickly realize that he is uncorrupted by success and remains incredibly grateful for the opportunities he found in Indianapolis.

What does the future hold for Matt? Right now, he is content to see where the music world will lead him. Whether he continues to operate his business or gets out of the industry in favor of a legal practice, Matt will always be an artist at heart—and an artist with a heart and a philanthropic spirit.

To learn more about the Nigerian schools project visit: [www.bebor.org](http://www.bebor.org)

To donate to Matt's fundraising effort visit [https://app.etapestry.com/hosted/TimmyFoundation/OnlineDonation.html](https://app.etapestry.com/hosted/TimmyFoundation/OnlineDonation.html)
Eastside Story: A True Collaboration

"This project is not just about a neighborhood: it is about the people, businesses, schools, jobs, legends and tales that make a neighborhood a home."

Those are the reflections of Molly Dagon, one of 13 student-researchers, who set out this past spring to explore the neighborhood now known as Community Heights. Located on the east side of the city, Community Heights extends from Emerson Avenue to Arlington Avenue; from 10th to 21st streets. Under the direction of Anthropology Department faculty member Susan Hyatt and as part of a community-based research course, student-researchers conducted over 40 extended interviews with neighborhood residents. They gathered and scanned old photos and other memorabilia from local residents and carried out archival research on the history of the Community Heights neighborhood. The tangible result of this research is a booklet entitled Eastside Story: Portrait of a Neighborhood on the Suburban Frontier. The book was printed by the Neighborhood Alliance Press, a division of Doulas Christos Press, located at Englewood Christian Church.

One thousand copies of the anthology of east side stories were distributed free of charge to local residents. "When students see the impact their work has on the communities where we carry out our studies," Hyatt said. "I think this gives them a deep sense of just how powerful research can be. They feel accountable, not just to me or to other class members, but also to the community. They understand the enormous responsibility involved in doing this work, but at the same time, they are energized by providing the opportunity for local residents to offer their perspectives and have their voices heard."

The students were touched and motivated by the generosity shown them by the Community Heights residents. "Interviews served multiple purposes," said student-researcher Maggy Baurley. "I think the most important element of doing an interview was making people feel that their stories and insights are valuable. The people of Community Heights were open and candid about their lives, and were willing to share their stories with us. We couldn't have asked for better participants."

For a copy of the Eastside Story booklet contact the Community Heights Neighborhood Organization, (317) 352-9906 or info@community-heights.org.

Photos courtesy of Angela Herrmann.
Nationally-recognized poet Patricia Smith gave the luncheon address at the 21st Annual Taylor Symposium and received a standing ovation.

"Very inspirational!" "Amazing program!" "Sincerely tremendous!"

So commented some attendees of the 21st Annual Joseph Taylor Symposium on their evaluation forms. The event, organized by the Department of English and themed "Voices in the City: Language + Literacy + Urban Life," focused on the diverse voices of spoken and written word and innovative efforts to teach the craft of communicating through writing in the urban school environment.

The first session of the February 26th event showcased local poets and writers who use their writing to touch on cultural and urban issues. Moderated by English Department graduate student Tiffany Kyser, the panel included Allyson Horton, Derrick Slack, and T.J. Reynolds. These young Indianapolis writers took turns reading and performing pieces of their own and famous poets’ work.

The theatrical, powerful performances by the three were enough to make some audience members laugh and cry. Attendee Lida Rogers said that "at one point I was crying and thought, oh well—I’m among great company!"

In the second panel, teachers and mentors affiliated with the National Writing Project displayed new approaches to working with language in multilingual, multicultural Indianapolis. Moderator Susan Adams, manager of Project Alianza at the College of Education at Butler University, was joined by local teachers Charlie Geier of MSD Washington Township Schools, Nikia Garland of Broad Ripple High School, and Joe Vanegas of the Orchard School.

Guests of the Symposium were invited to attend a poster session featuring the work of students, faculty, and community members. Showing research and reflection on issues surrounding language and literacy practices in urban culture, the subjects for the poster session ranged from documenting neighborhood histories in Indianapolis to recovering Native American language.

During the luncheon, the Taylor Awards for Excellence in Diversity were presented by Chancellor Charles Bantz. The award recognizes individuals and programs that have contributed to the climate for diversity on the IUPUI campus.

Individual winner Assistant Professor of English Jennifer Thornton Springer is considered a campus leader in curricular and co-curricular transformation for the promotion of diversity.

Thorington Springer, together with Liberal Arts faculty members Gina Sanchez Gibau (Anthropology) and Najja Modibo (Africana Studies), is also a member of the Multicultural Teaching Community of Practice (MTCOP), the program recipient of the 2010 Taylor award.

Organized and facilitated by the Center for Teaching and Learning, MTCOP has displayed a passionate energy to facilitate building teaching and learning communities that incorporate an inclusive classroom atmosphere.

Following the awards, keynote speaker Patricia Smith took the stage. Smith was a 2008 National Book Award Finalist for Blood Dazzler which chronicles the human, physical and emotional toll exacted by Hurricane Katrina. She has also been featured on HBO’s Def Poetry Jam, and is a four-time champion of the National Poetry Slam.

"Patricia Smith was amazing—thank you for bringing her here," wrote one luncheon guest." Another commented, "I’d give the speaker a 10 out of 5."

The event was a fitting tribute to Joseph T. Taylor, the first dean of the School of Liberal Arts and a notable beginning for the Symposium’s third decade.

The 22nd Annual Taylor Symposium will be organized by the Department of Geography and held in February 2011.
Capturing the breadth and diversity of the Liberal Arts in one fell swoop is difficult if not impossible. As a part of IUPUI’s 40th Anniversary Celebration, Indianapolis artist Lars Larson was willing to give it a shot. The product of his efforts now spans three walls in the lobbies of Cavanaugh Hall’s second and third floors. Stop by and see the Liberal Arts mural sometime and let us know what you think.

Artist’s Statement

Liberal Arts is a curriculum that imparts general knowledge and develops rational thought and intellect. The contemporary Liberal Arts is defined as comprising the study of Art, Literature, Languages, Philosophy, Politics, History, Mathematics & Science. We wanted to create a work that expresses this wide reach Liberal Arts holds in our lives, our work & our cultures. It spans the mix of past, present, and future. It reaches beyond people, places, objects, religions, and thought. It’s relevant today. And will be relevant tomorrow. Liberal Arts is all the world around us. It’s ever-changing, ever-growing, always being redefined. So, how do you wrap your head around a concept such as this? This mural is a visual interpretation of these ideas. A poetic blend of words and images. We hope it sparks thought, interest, and discussion as to what it means to study the Liberal Arts, and how it may (or may not) affect our lives.

Lars Larson  
President, Timber Design Company