The Medical Humanities and Health Studies Program is partnering with St. Vincent Hospital to host the monthly “Literature and Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care” seminar. The seminar invites health care professionals and others to discussions of fiction and nonfiction literature, drama, and poetry to examine issues doctors face on a daily basis. Through these discussions, the organizers hope to bring new ideas and reflection to the process of caring for the sick.

Johnny Goldfinger, assistant professor of political science, is one of 17 IU faculty members to be initiated as 2009 Faculty Colloquium on Excellence in Teaching (FACET) member. FACET members “have demonstrated their exceptional commitment to teaching and learning through areas of self-evaluation, course preparation, research, instructional skills, and student impact.”

In late April, graduate students from the Public History Program volunteered at the Canal Museum in Delphi, Indiana. The students’ help allowed the museum, an all volunteer effort, to make significant progress in its outdoor presentations.

Political Science MA student Taura Brown Edwards recently won a $2,500 Future Colleagues Scholarship from the National Forum of Black Public Administrators.

As part of the one hundredth commemoration of Indiana’s legislation on eugenic sterilization, the Medical Humanities and Health Studies Program participated in the creation of an online exhibition to foster understanding of the historical event. “Fit to Breed?” features a timeline that extends from Darwin’s “Origin of Species” to the 1978 Supreme Court case Stump v. Sparkman. Examinations of important issues and people are also featured together with resources and links to more information. The exhibit can be viewed at http://www.iupui.edu/~fit2brd/.

Helen Schwartz, Professor Emerita of English, was named a 2010 Fulbright Scholar; she will lecture at Bilkent University in Ankara, Turkey, next spring.

Students may now participate in Liberal Arts’ first all-online certificate program. The Undergraduate Certificate in Human Communication In a Mediated World is offered by the Department of Communication Studies and focuses on developing communication skills in a society that constantly alternates from face-to-face conversation to rapid online discourse. The certificate consists of 18 hours of online coursework and is open to degree and non-degree seeking students.

Professor Emerita of History and Religious Studies Jan Shipps will be a 2009 Distinguished Visiting Greenberg Fellow at the Leonard E. Greenberg Center for the Study of Religion and Public Life at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut.


Enrica Ardemagni, Associate Professor of Spanish and Director of the Translation Studies Program, has been elected co-chair of the Board of Directors of the National Council on Interpreting in Health Care. In the position, she will share the responsibility of leading the national professional organization.

Recently released by the IU Press is The New Black Gods, a collection of essays co-edited by Religious Studies professor Edward Curtis examining African American religion following the Great Migration. The book revolves around anthropologist Arthur Huff Fauset’s groundbreaking volume, Black Gods of the Metropolis, first published in 1944. In an effort to create an understanding of religious practices, scholars returned to the groups Fauset introduced in his work and built on his interpretations.