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Dean’s Blog
During the first week of December, Dean William Blomquist will travel to Stockholm, Sweden, where he will write about the award presentation of the Nobel Prize in Economic Studies to Indiana University Professor Elinor Ostrom. Ostrom is the first woman to win the Nobel Prize for Economics and is recognized for her analysis of economic governance, especially the commons. Look for the Dean’s Blog at www.liberalarts.iupui.edu.

Academics
The state’s first master’s degree devoted to the study of applied anthropology will accept its inaugural class of students next fall. The program, offered by the Department of Anthropology, will enhance further collaborations between the school and community-based organizations. Faculty and student research will help communities across central Indiana address real-world problems and issues that arise from cultural differences. The new program will take advantage of existing departmental strengths in public archaeology, urban anthropology, international development, globalization, medical anthropology and museum studies.

Research
Una Okonkwo Osili, associate professor of economics and philanthropic studies, has been named director of research for the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University. She will develop new research initiatives, convene scholars and nonprofit professionals nationally and internationally, direct the center’s research department, and serve as lead researcher on several research projects.

Grants
Daniel Johnson, assistant professor of geography and a researcher in the Institute for Research on Social Issues (an IUPUI Signature Center), received a three-year, $419,220 cooperative grant from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Johnson and the NASA team will develop extreme heat vulnerability models for three U.S. cities for use by public health officials to identify spatially specific areas of highest mortality risk during an extreme heat event.

Research
Professor of Anthropology and Museum Studies Larry Zimmerman and his student, Jessica Welch, had their project on the “Archaeology of the Homeless” featured in the November/December 2009 issue of Archaeology magazine, the largest popular-circulation magazine about archaeology.

Books
Muslims in America: A Short History has been named one of the Publishers Weekly Top 100 Books of 2009. Written by Professor of Religious Studies Edward E. Curtis IV, the book traces the history of followers of Islam in America from the 18th century to post-9-11 America. “Americans generally think of Muslims as immigrants who are fresh off the boat. This book shows that they have been part of America before the U.S. was founded,” said Curtis, who has written and edited five other books.

Excellence
The Economics Society of Australia awarded Paul Carlin, chair and professor of economics, the prize for the best published article of 2008 in the journal Economic Record. Carlin’s article was titled “Experimenting with Affirmative Action: The Coate and Loury Model.” It was selected from among 50 other articles for making the best contribution to economics.

Awards
Monroe Little, associate professor of history and director of African American and African Diaspora studies, received the inaugural Africana Studies Trailblazer Award during the first Africana Studies conference held in November at IUPUI.

Books
A 2008 book by Rachel Wheeler, associate professor of religious studies, titled To Live Upon Hope: Mohicans and Missionaries in the 18th Century Northeast has been named one of the year’s top five books in the history of religion by the American Academy of Religion.

Grants
The National Archives and Record Administration awarded the Frederick Douglass Papers Project, directed by the Mary O’Brien Gibson Professor of History John R. Kaufman-Mckivigan, $250,627 to continue work over the next three years on the critical edition of the voluminous papers of Frederick Douglass, one of the foremost reformers of the 19th Century.

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Service
Paul Mullins, chair and professor of anthropology, has been elected president of the Society for Historical Archaeology. He will serve as the society’s president-elect for 2010 and as its president for 2011.

Excellence
Professor of Sociology Linda Haas’ article, “Exploring the Paradox: Experiences of Flexible Working Arrangements and Work-Family Conflict among Managerial Fathers in Sweden,” has named one of the 20 best articles of the year in the annual Rosabeth Moss Kanter Competition for Excellence in Work-Family Research. Haas has also received a visiting scholar fellowship at Gothenburg University for January through June 2010 from the Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research.

Grants
The Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture, one of the school’s Signature Centers, has been awarded $144,637 by the National Endowment of the Humanities to conduct a three-week summer institute for high school teachers on the role of religion in American history and life.

Research
Several Liberal Arts researchers are collaborating on federally-funded research projects conducted by investigators in the schools of Medicine and Science.

- Associate Professor of Spanish Enrica Ardemagni is applying her expertise in Spanish language translation and bilingual study for medical personnel to a project to improve the reach of an obesity education program among disadvantaged women.

- Gina Sanchez Gibau, associate professor of anthropology, adds her expertise to projects intended to increase the enrollment and retention of under-represented ethnic minority students in the medical school.

- An expert in organizational health communication, John Parrish-Sprowl, professor of communication studies, leads the Communication Action Team for the Community Health Engagement program of the Indiana Clinical Translational Science Institute.

- Associate Professor of Geography Jeffrey Wilson adds GIS and mapping capabilities to Medicine and Science projects funded by the National Institutes of Health, the Center for Disease Control and NASA.

Awards
Associate Director of Development External Affairs Geneviève Shaker is the 2009 recipient of the prestigious Bobby Wright Dissertation of the Year Award. Her dissertation, titled “Off the Track: The Full-time Non-Tenure Track Faculty Experience in English,” was recognized nationally by the Association for the Study of Higher Education.

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