Students

New graduate and Curtis Oratorical Tournament winner, Nate Bullock (BA Communication Studies, 2008) has been selected as a 2008 Bob Orr Indiana Entrepreneurial Fellow. The Orr Fellowship is designed to help train the next generation of business leaders by providing them with a valuable two-year experience at one of the "host companies", holding business leader meetings with top entrepreneurs in the state, and building relationships with other classes of Orr Fellows. More than 7,000 Indiana students applied; Bullock, one of ten chosen to participate in the two-year program, will complete his fellowship at Indiana technology company, Brightpoint.

Engagement

In 2008, Liberal Arts departments represent 40% of the campus' engaged departments, committed to participating and serving the Indianapolis community. Liberal Arts also constitutes 100% of the campus' internationally engaged departments according the IUPUI Center for Service and Learning. Moreover, three of the ten IUPUI student recipients of the Plater Medallion for Civic Engagement are Liberal Arts majors.

Degrees

Four students will complete the requirements of the Ph.D. in Philanthropic Studies this summer. This makes them not only the first PhD graduates of the School of Liberal Arts, but also the first holders of PhDs in Philanthropic Studies in the nation. The highly acclaimed Indiana University Center on Philanthropy is a part of the IU School of Liberal Arts.

Grants

The National Institutes of Health have awarded $1.6 million over 5 years to Liberal Arts faculty member David Bell for his project, "Networks of Heterosexual Risk and HIV." He will study HIV-positive people and their HIV-negative heterosexual partners to determine motivations for risk reduction behaviors. The overall objective is to develop interventions to reduce the transmission of HIV. Bell, a Professor of Sociology and the lead researcher, will be joined by Assistant Professor Carrie Foote (Sociology) and Professor Sandra Petronio (Communication Studies) in completing the project.

Awards

Christian Sisterhood, Race Relations, and the YWCA (1906-1946) by Nancy Marie Robertson, Associate Professor of History and Philanthropic Studies and Director of the Women's Studies Program, won the Wentworth Prize from the University of Illinois Press. In selecting the award, press editors choose the best new titles in US History from those they have published; an outside panel of scholars chose the winning book. The Prize, named for a retired Director of the University of Illinois Press, carries with it a $3500 award.

Service

Faculty member Linda Bell (Communication Studies and Nursing) collaborated on the Wee Ones Nursery program at the Indiana Women's Prison, an innovative arrangement that allows soon-to-be-released mothers to care for their children at the facility.

Giving

Students in Communication Studies faculty member Mike Polites' speech classes used their final persuasive speech assignment to raise money for the Central Indiana Make a Wish Foundation; over $200 was provided to the organization from the two classes.

Service

Faculty members in Liberal Arts participate in a wide variety of Center for Service and Learning programs and activities including the Faculty Fellows in Service Learning project and the International Service Learning Opportunity Program. They are also recipients of that Center's Commitment to Excellence in Civic Engagement Grants.

Degrees

Students graduating from the Individualized Major Program in May and August designed their own majors in Philanthropy and Youth, Legal Communication, Ethnology and Music Research, Egyptian and Near Eastern Studies, Religious Studies of Womanhood in History, International Health, Medical Humanities and Japanese Language and Culture.