



IUP began the new year with a **student success infrastructure**, providing proactive, direct support to all students in all programs, at all levels, and at all sites. The university-wide commitment to student-centeredness includes 15 navigators, a data support specialist, and the Academic Advising Center.

Nearly 100 new students completed a weeklong early immersion program prior to Welcome Week through the **Crimson Scholars Circle** program, now in its third year. The Crimson Scholars

Circle works to improve the retention and persistence rates of Black and Brown IUP students; programming will continue throughout the academic year.

This fall, almost 2,900 students will be **living in residence halls** on the Indiana campus, with an additional 65 students living in Punxsutawney's Living-Learning Center. For the second consecutive year, move-in for new students included a one-stop check-in process at the Kovalchick Convention and Athletic Complex.



Researching Caffeine Levels in Coffee with U-SOAR

A total of 28 undergraduate students completed cutting-edge research in majors in all disciplines through the **Undergraduate Summer Opportunities for Applying Research program**, in its ninth year. Students worked closely with faculty mentors during the 10-week program.

GLOBAL IMPACT

IUP's American Language Institute is providing an eight-week, virtual intensive English program for graduate students at Japan's **University of Miyazaki**. This partnership is funded by the United States government.

IUP is one of only two universities in the United States chosen to host students participating in the **Secretariat of Research, Innovation and Higher Education State of Yucatan scholarship**, a short-term, intensive English language and American culture program. IUP welcomed 30 undergraduate students from a variety of universities in Yucatan this fall; this is IUP's second year to be

selected as a host university. IUP received \$80,000 in funding from the State of Yucatan to host this year's program.



IUP has received more than \$1.8 million over the past eight years as a host for the **Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Program for International Teachers**. IUP is one of only three

universities in the nation chosen as a host institution for the program, which brings selected international primary and secondary educators to the United States who have been selected as Fulbright recipients in their home countries. This fall, IUP hosts 17 educators from 10 countries, who will complete professional development coursework at IUP and be guest teachers in the Indiana Area School District and the Pittsburgh Public School system.

For the third consecutive year, IUP's Department of Anthropology has been selected by the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of

Military Medicine Inc. to continue its **field study in Germany at the site of a World War II airplane crash**. The project is directed by Andrea Palmiotto and William Chadwick (anthropology). The six-week field study includes three IUP students joining 12 students from other universities across the U.S.

Amanda Poole (anthropology) has been selected for the **Fulbright Specialist Program** and has been approved to work on a project in Madagascar. Poole is IUP's sixth faculty Fulbright Specialist and will hold this distinction for three years.



FUNDING STUDENT SUCCESS

The late Robert Flora M '87, a long-time psychologist and crisis prevention instructor from Johnstown, donated \$200,000 from his estate to IUP for **student scholarships**.



Internationally known tubist Jim Self '65, a 2003 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient, and his wife, Jamie Self, have made a gift to establish the **Jim and Jamie Self Brass Scholarship**, which provides scholarship support to students enrolled at IUP who are pursuing a major or minor offered by the Department of Music with a concentration in brass.



Andrew Longacre '13, M '19, gifted funds to establish the **Gealy Wallwork Memorial Scholarship** for Student Leadership in honor of the late Gealy Wallwork, a long-time IUP trustee. Longacre, of Presto, president of Millennium Torque & Tensioning Inc./ Millennium Industrial Services, of Eighty Four, was a student member of the IUP Council of Trustees from 2011 to 2013 and is a 2023 Young Alumni Award recipient in 2023.

Six alumni, all living in or around the Houston area and members of IUP's Houston Advancement Council (a group of IUP alumni volunteers), have established the **Texas Alumni Scholarship** for undergraduate students at IUP.

Retired biology professor **Frank Baker and his wife, the late Mary Baker**, along with members of the Baker family, have made a \$50,000 gift to benefit IUP's John J. and Char Kopchick College

of Natural Sciences and Mathematics Building Fund. In addition, their daughter, the Rev. Kathleen Baker '84, has donated \$25,000 to IUP in honor of her former professor, Carl Adams (music) to establish the **Carl Adams Scholarship for Flute Performance**.

Quest for the Best has provided \$66,700 for scholarships for students at IUP's **Criminal Justice Training Center** who are studying to become municipal police officers.



Elizabeth Haffling, a senior Hotel, Restaurant, Tourism, and Event Planning major from Martinsburg is IUP's third recipient of the **Statler Foundation's Scholarship of Excellence**, which provides up to \$25,000 for the academic year to be used for tuition, fees, and books.

CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO RURAL HEALTH CARE



Nick Jacobs '69, M'72, and Mary Ann Hoysan Jacobs '68, M'93 made a gift of more than \$40,000 to support IUP's work to establish a **college of osteopathic medicine**. Nick Jacobs is a 2005 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient.

IUP has welcomed five candidates for the **founding dean** of the proposed college of osteopathic medicine. The search is expected to conclude in early fall.



IUP and Indiana Regional Medical Center will launch Season Two of the podcast **Rural Health Pulse** in November. Season One, which concluded in August, was 10 episodes and it included professionals from IRMC and IUP, recorded by students in the IUP Department of Communications Media under the direction of Mark Piwinsky and produced by IUP Director of Strategic Partnerships Christina Koren. Jim Kinneer, IRMC's Chief Human Resources Officer, serves as the host for the shows.

Pre-medicine majors Catherine Martsolf and Noah Mattingly completed Indiana Regional Medical Center's **Pre-Med Undergraduate Summer Internship**, shadowing physicians from eight different medical specialties, one each week of the eight-week internship. The program, in its third year, was developed and directed by IRMC's Dan Clark. Only eight students are accepted for the program each year, based on a competitive application process.

IUP's Department of Nursing and Allied Health was featured in "**Navigating the Nursing Shortage – The Need for Care**," a documentary produced by WQED Multimedia. Theresa Gropelli, department chair, and two students were part of the program, which is designed to bring awareness about the Pennsylvania nursing shortage.

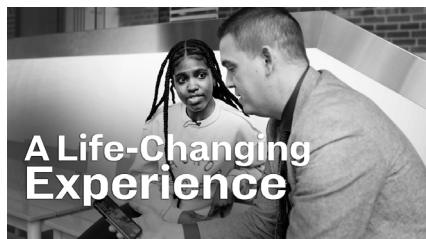
GRANT SUCCESS

IUP received \$996,350 from the Department of Defense to establish a pilot program for **cybersecurity students to develop language foundations and proficiency in Chinese**. IUP is the only school in the nation chosen to develop the program. Waleed Farag (computer science), director of IUP's Institute of Cybersecurity, authored the grant proposal; Shijuan (Laurel) Liu (foreign languages), is the co-principal investigator for the grant and will be the program lead instructor.

Enrollment is now open for IUP's **Biosafety/Biorisk Management Certificate** program, funded through a \$460,000 grant from the United States Department of Agriculture. N. Bharathan (biology) and Tracey Cekada (safety sciences) are leading the interdisciplinary project.

IUP's **Institute for Rural Health and Safety** received \$104,000 in federal funding through the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for the Indiana County Highway Safety Project, a program designed to promote safe driving, including seat-belt use, in the region.

RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE



A video produced by members of the Division of Student Affairs has been **nominated for a 2023 Mid-Atlantic Emmy award by the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences**. This is the first time that a video produced by the university has been nominated for an Emmy award. “A Life-Changing Experience-Connections” was created by Bill Hamilton, Brian Henry, and Emily Smith (Office of Marketing and Communications).

The Federal Aviation Administration has selected IUP as an **FAA Collegiate Training Institution**, which allows IUP’s program to be part of its Unmanned Aircraft Systems-Collegiate Training Initiative program. IUP, which has offered a certificate in Unmanned Aerial Systems Science and Applications since 2018, is the only university in Pennsylvania chosen by the FAA for this recognition.

Kenneth Coles (geoscience) is co-author of *Bennu 3-D: Anatomy of an Asteroid*, published jointly by the London Stereoscopic Company and the University of Arizona Press. The book sums up the NASA OSIRIS-REx mission, which sampled the near-earth asteroid Bennu in October 2020 and will return the sample to Earth on Sept. 24. In 2019, Coles worked with scientists Kenneth Tanaka (United States Geological Survey’s Astrogeology team) and Philip Christensen (Arizona State University) to author *The Atlas of Mars: Mapping its Geography and Geology*.



Dr. Cory Shay, director of IUP’s Military and Veterans Resource Center, has been selected for the **2023 Veteran Champions of the Year in Higher Education** list by Military Friendly. This list honors champions who advocate for America’s veterans in higher education. IUP opened its Military Resource Center in January 2014 under the leadership of President Michael Driscoll. In fall 2022, IUP enrolled more than 800 veterans or military-affiliated students (almost 10 percent of the student body). Since fall 2014, IUP has increased the enrollment of veterans and military-affiliated students by almost 70 percent.

IUP has been selected for **The Princeton Review’s 2024 Best Colleges** guidebook and the 2024 “Best Colleges Region by Region” listing. Fewer than 15 percent of America’s 2,500 four-year colleges were chosen for the 2024 publication; IUP has been included in the guidebook for more than two decades.

The Wall Street Journal and College Pulse have named IUP as one of **America’s Best Colleges 2024**. The ranking is based on student and alumni surveys.

PROVIDING NEW OPPORTUNITIES

IUP is part of Pennsylvania’s State System of Higher Education’s “**Grow with Google**” career certificate program, which helps students get on the fast track for careers in high-demand fields through widely recognized credentials. IUP will work with the Student Government Association to provide these certificates, which initially will be embedded into a credit-bearing accounting class as part of the course curriculum. IUP will use some of its Google licenses as part of an educational support initiative for employees at a local power plant looking to reskill in light of the announced closure of the facility.

JUST ONE MORE...



In August, IUP’s Student Cooperative Association celebrated its 90th anniversary with several events, including the grand opening of an **E-Sports Arena**.