Natalie Mae will be a Journalism and Anthropology dual baccalaureate with a political science minor.

By: Natalie Mae Schaefer

I am humbled and excited by the opportunity to speak for the class of 2011’s commencement ceremony. Our commencement this year is not only celebrating the 2011 class but also the IUP “Pioneer” class of graduates from 50 years ago. For this special occasion my speech “Follow The Yellow Brick Road” is an allegory for the journey we make starting at K-12 and continuing into Higher Education. Now that we are poised over the final golden bricks of the path that has been beaten out for us we must step off into the wild; a new place where the next moves are up to us. For me, this wild place will be an internship at the sustainable living magazine Mother Earth News in Topeka, Kansas. The decision to point my new azimuth there was a long time in the making. Growing up at my house North of Pittsburgh, my sisters and I were taught to rotate our imaginations while my parents rotated their compost piles. In the summer and fall we ate from my Mother’s victory garden and fed a few chickens in the early morning before walking to the bus stop. I learned about balance and the importance of working together as a family to grow local ingredients for delicious food. When I was 16, I decided to “sell the farm for the sea.” Since then, I have spent the summers as a paid deckhand on the traditional tall ship the U.S. Brig Niagara. On the Niagara, I toured the Great Lakes and the Saint Laurence Seaway. It was a rare opportunity to grow blisters and friendships while working hard under the sun as a member of another family. Teamwork here was essential in order to travel not by burning fossil fuels but by the power of the wind with technology that dates back to 1812.

My four years here at IUP have expanded on these experiences and provided me with opportunities to prepare for the next adventure. Through the Robert E. Cook Honors College, I spent a semester at Humboldt State University on the Northern California coast where I took courses on Native Nation sovereignty and sustainable nation building and did cooperative research on two Native Nation Rancherias. Humboldt State is home to two LEED certified gold standard buildings and other sustainable practices both on campus and in the town of Arcata, CA. At IUP, I attended the PASSHE Women’s consortium conference with young feminist representatives from all 14 Pennsylvania state schools. I also spent a semester in the IUP ROTC program as a cadet in the Ranger Challenge competition in which we took second place overall. On campus as an IUP Ambassador for the university, I have shared experiences with both Alumni and prospective students. I have been honored to work with the great ladies at the University Events office and to publish an interactive blog and investigative pieces on the IUP journalism Web site, The HawkEye. I am committed to promoting sustainable living practices at the local level through writing and supporting local agriculture. I look forward to having a garden of my own some day and a place to pasture a few goats. Congratulations class of 2011!

May Commencement Exercises will take place on Saturday May 7, 2011 at the Kovalchick Convention and Athletic Complex. All graduates should report to the loading dock of the Kovalchick Complex, which faces Thomas Hall, by 10:00 a.m. The ceremony begins at 11:00 a.m. Faculty are encouraged to attend and celebrate our graduates.
Janet Goebel (English/Director of the Robert E. Cook Honors College) and President David Werner. Dr. Goebel received the Distinguished Faculty Award for Service.

Dr. John Sitton (Political Science) and President David Werner. Dr. Sitton received the Distinguished Faculty Award for Research.

Dr. Marveta Ryan Sams (Spanish), President of the IUP Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi, welcomes new and returning members of the honor society.

Dr. Peter Broad (Spanish) addresses the audience in his role as IUP Senate Chairperson.
A proud and happy Dean Yaw Asamoah beams at the near-sweep of the awards by CHSS faculty.

Dr. Lynne Alvine (English) and President Werner. Dr. Alvine received the Distinguished Faculty Award for Teaching.

Dr. Ryan Sams, President Werner, and Provost Gerald Intemann welcome new Phi Kappa Phi inductees.

2010 University Professor Dr. Ben Rafoth
The Appalachian Studies Association National Conference Coming to IUP in 2012

The IUP Center for Northern Appalachian Studies is sponsoring the Appalachian Studies Association’s 35th Annual National Conference on the IUP campus March 23 - 25, 2012. This is an association that features the work of scholars, researchers, government officials, activists, and students both graduate and undergraduate. Having the conference at IUP will mark the first time that the conference is held north of the Mason-Dixon line. The conference organizing committee, celebrating the “Wide Reach” of Appalachian studies in general, welcomes a wide diversity of topics ranging throughout the entire interdisciplinary field of study. For more information about the Appalachian Studies Association and their conference submission guidelines visit www.appalachianstudies.org, or email Dr. Jim Dougherty, Center Director, or Dr. Jim Cahalan of the IUP English Department.

Faculty and Student Scholarly Accomplishments by Department

**Economics**
- Economics major Stephanie Bearjar was one of twelve students selected by the John P. Murtha Institute for Homeland Security to participate in the 26th Model NATO Conference held in Washington, DC, February 18-20, 2011.

**English**
- English major Elizabeth Elmore received a Cambridge Pembroke-King’s Program Scholarship.

**Journalism**
Two Journalism majors, Megan Guza and Andrew Wojcik, received the top collegiate prize for investigative reporting given by the Pennsylvania Newspaper Association.

**Political Science**
- Dr. Susan Martin presented her paper “Gender Analysis from the Sixth Comparison Study of Teaching Blended In-class Courses vs. Teaching Distance Education Courses” at the APSA Teaching and Learning Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico in February.

**Sociology**
- Dr. Melanie Hildebrandt recently completed a two-year anti-racism training provided by Crossroads as part of her work with the Western Pennsylvania United Methodist Conference Dismantling Racism Team. On March 6, Dr. Hildebrandt participated in an invited roundtable with the National Movement for Difficult Dialogues Teaching and Learning in Washington, DC.

**Spanish**
- Dr. Laura Delbrugge’s book, *A Scholarly Edition of Andres de Li’s Thesoro de la passion (1494)*, has been published by Brill Press (2011).
- Dr. Eileen Glisan delivered the keynote address at the annual Southwest Conference on Language Teaching in Fort Worth, Texas. The topic of her address was “Research and Practice: A Tale of Two Worlds in Foreign Language Education.” She also co-presented a session at the Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. Dr. Glisan is currently directing Phase I of the Research Priorities in Foreign Language Education Project sponsored by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.
- Spanish major Suzanne Johnston has been accepted into the Master’s program at Michigan State University.
- Dr. Lydia Rodriguez was invited to publish an article on the meaning of life for a special issue of *Notandum: Revista Semestral Internacional de Estudios Académicos*. Her article, “Being: Latin American Women Writers and Their Quest of Their Inner Being,” was published in 2011. Dr. Rodriguez was also invited to serve on two international journal editorial boards and one international literary organization, including the Revista Internacional d’Humanitats, Notandum: Revista Semestral Internacional de Estudios Académicos, and the Conselho Editorial dos livros do CEMOrOc.
CHSS Award Winners at the 2011 IUP Undergraduate Scholars Forum

**Best Poster Award**
Thomas Wambach (Anthropology)
*Firing Techniques and Their Effects on Susquehannock Ceramic Vessels*

**Outstanding Presentation Awards**
Raymond Edwards (Economics/International Business)
*One World, One Dream: Gender Equality as a Factor of Success at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games*

Ainyae Stratton (Sociology)
*The Oprah Effect—The “Midas Touch”*

Bridget Widdowson (Economics/Political Science)
*The Effects of Minimum Wage and Other Socioeconomic Factors on Poverty*

**Best Bibliography Award**
Kierstin Bolton (Political Science)
*Chinese Governance in Xinjian Province: Ethnic Dissatisfaction and Tension with Han Chinese*

**Outstanding Teacher Work Sample Award**
Allison Shumar (English)
*Best Overall*

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**Announcement**
As of July 1, I will be stepping down as Dean’s Associate to return to full-time teaching in the Spanish Department. I want to thank all of you for all of your collegiality and contributions to the newsletter for the last three years, as it’s been my honor to serve Dean Asamoah and all of you as your Dean’s Associate. For now, please continue to submit news items for the newsletter to me at lauradel@iup.edu as I will be sure to pass them along. I wish you all the best of summers, and thanks again.

Laura Delbrugge
Announcing
THE 2011 TEACHER-SCHOLAR SYMPOSIUM
Critical Perspectives on Teacher-Scholarship
Sponsored by Composition & TESOL & Frederick Douglass Institute

Friday, June 17, 2011
8:00am - 5:00pm

The IUP English Department and the Frederick Douglass Institute proudly announces its second annual Teacher Scholar Symposium designed to stimulate an academic conference atmosphere and to foster collegiality among students and faculty in interdisciplinary approaches to teacher-scholarship work. Both undergraduate and graduate students as well as their faculty doing work related to critical perspectives on teacher scholarship. You are encouraged to submit proposals in one of the following formats:

- Single/Co-author Paper Presentation (20 minutes);
- Panel Presentation (60 minutes);
- Theory to Practice (Praxis) (Interactive) Workshop (60 minutes); or
- Poster Presentation

Highlights of the Second Teacher Scholar Symposium

Opening Plenary: Katherine Sohn, the author of Whistlin’ and Crowin’ Women of Appalachia: Literacy Practices since College

Luncheon Plenary: Veronica Watson, Brian Jones, Crystal Machado, & Mary Lou Metz, board members of the Frederick Douglass Institute

For more information, contact Dr. Gloria Park at gloria.park@iup.edu