



# IUP Parent Newsletter

## Spring 2018

IUP understands the importance of family support. This newsletter will be available to you each semester as a look into what is happening on our campus. We look forward to working with you on our goal to guide each student through a pathway of success.

-IUP Academic Success Center Team

### Welcome

Congratulations on helping your child take a step to better their skills and education! This may have been a large decision for you to make with your child, but take comfort in the knowledge that IUP's professor-student ratio ensures that no one is left in the dust.

I came to IUP knowing what direction I wanted to head in, but not exactly how to get there. The biggest lesson to keep in mind is that college is what you make it. Only you determine who and what affects you for better or for worse.

My parents have always discouraged the "pedestal" way of thinking, and instead, placed importance on my work ethic and confidence as a way of preparing me for the bumps to come.

My advice to your child is to try and focus on who you wish to become and not what. You are a walking advertisement for yourself and your actions and reactions define you.



I will always be grateful to my parents for instilling in me the drive to persist through other people's reactions.

I hope you can help encourage your child to strive to make the most out of every day and form a passion making themselves proud. Remind them to study hard, question often, and trudge on.

Kathryn DiBiase, '18,  
Graduating senior

## College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics



With the demolition of Leonard Hall comes the plans for a new building for the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics. Construction of the new building will begin after the next phase of the plan, the demolition of Walsh Hall, is complete. The new building will be designed with the goal of meeting every departmental need, accounting for both equipment and user needs.

## Center for Multicultural Leadership and Engagement



It seems our campus changes and grows along with

## Alumni News

The IUP Alumni Association, along with President Michael Driscoll, have announced the [2018 Distinguished Alumni Awards](#). These are graduates who have established outstanding career success and service to the university. In addition, this past fall, the [Young Alumni Awardees](#) were also recognized for their outstanding achievements in their first 15 years after graduation. The 2017 Young Alumni Awardees discussed their professions and held seminars within the classrooms of current IUP students.

## Upcoming Events

### Parent and Family Weekend

IUP wants to get to know the parents and families of its students. This fall, we will host Parent and Family Weekend Friday, September 21, through Sunday, September 23. The weekend will be filled with fun, food, and campus events. Friday night's activities will be centered around the Crimson Basket Auction. The excitement will continue Saturday with a home football game, tailgate, and Family Fun Day. All families are welcome to join in and connect with the Indiana community.

the seasons. This semester, we celebrated the opening of the new Center for Multicultural Leadership and Engagement on the first floor of Elkin Hall. The official ribbon-cutting ceremony was January 26, 2018. The doors are now open to offer a location on campus where students can access services to address multiple aspects of culture, identity, and diversity.

### **North Dining Hall**



After years of planning and months of construction, North Dining Hall opened its doors in fall 2017 as a centrally located buffet-style eating option. The new dining hall seats 500 and is “all you can eat” style. The dining hall offers plenty of international options and is open Monday through Friday.

### **University Professor: Teresa Shellenbarger**

### **Welcome Weekend**

The weekend of incoming freshmen move-in, Thursday, August 23, through Sunday, August 26, is a time for new students to get comfortable with our campus and become familiar with our resources. Events this year include an outdoor movie showing, a student D.J. battle, outdoor yoga, games, and free food.

### **Homecoming**

Indiana University of Pennsylvania's annual Homecoming celebration Saturday, October 6, is expected to draw thousands “home” to Indiana for alumni reunions and events for the entire community. The annual parade is scheduled for 10:00 a.m., and the football game is at 2:00 p.m.

### **IUP Day**

IUP Day offers students an opportunity to meet with representatives from our recognized student organizations, in an effort to connect students with common interest groups. This student-planned event includes food, giveaways, music and more. All students are welcome to participate Friday, September 7, from 3:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m. at the Kovalchick Convention Athletic Complex.



Since 1994, Teresa Shellenbarger has served in various education and leadership roles, with a focus on excellence in teaching, scholarship, and service. For that reason, she has been named the 2017-2018 Distinguished University Professor. Currently, she serves as the PhD coordinator in nursing within the Department of Nursing and Allied Health Professions at IUP.

## Student Research



Graduating with a dual bachelor's degree in psychology and mathematics, Victoria Jakicic has impressed the community with more than academics. Victoria came to IUP as a freshman and immediately found comfortability within her department and at IUP as a whole. The environment here at IUP helped to lead Jakicic to the success she has found today. Reflecting on her college career, she stresses that this is an incredible time of growth, and the importance of parent and family support is unsurpassed. Here, she found confidence

in herself to persevere to graduation, and with the support of her professors and family, she did a lot more than the bare minimum. At the undergraduate scholars' forum on April 3, [Jakicic presented "A Theoretical Foundation for the Application of Basic Research in Perception to Prosthetic Vision,"](#) which she has been doing research about all semester. Through her mathematics research, Jakicic has been published in Conference Proceedings for Undergraduate Mathematics Day at the University of Dayton.

Jakicic plans to earn a Doctorate in Mathematical and Computational Cognitive Science, with the ultimate goal of becoming a professor.

The College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics dean nominated Jakicic to be the undergraduate speaker at this year's [commencement](#) to be held Saturday, May 12.

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