

Indiana University of Pennsylvania Points of Pride



MOVING ON

A total of 2,426 students applied for **May and August graduation** and are eligible to participate in the May ceremonies. This includes 1,831 bachelor's degrees, 498 master's degrees, 94 doctoral degrees and three associate degrees. Altogether, the university conveyed 3,163 degrees during the 2016-2017 academic year: 2,339 bachelor's degrees (1,018 graduates qualified for Latin honors), 680 master's degrees, 141 doctoral degrees, and three associate degrees.

To accommodate the growing number of graduates, families and friends who wish to attend commencement, **there are three ceremonies** this year: a graduate ceremony on Friday, May 12 and two undergraduate ceremonies on Saturday, May 13, all at the Kovalchick Convention and Athletic Complex.

The commencement ceremonies also mark the final year in which **Dr. Robert Millward** (Professional Studies) serves as the chief marshal for the ceremony. Dr. Millward will be retiring from IUP after 45 years of service.

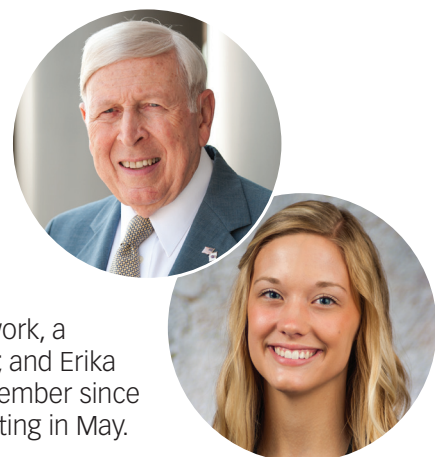
The IUP team was part of a contingent of 100 students, faculty, staff, university presidents, trustees and alumni

from the 14 schools in Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education who **met with legislators** in Harrisburg in April to seek support for and investment in the State System. Students from IUP included undergraduates Erika Fenstermacher, student trustee; Caleb King, student trustee; elect Brian Swatt, president, IUP Student Government Association and PaSSHE Student Board of Governor; Carson Nicholas, vice president, SGA; Kaylee Miller, director of external affairs, SGA; Becca Rhoades, SGA and Army National Guard; Jordan Wang, IUP Ambassadors; Bucky Wiech, IUP Ambassadors; and graduate students Peter Faziani, president, IUP Graduate Student Assembly; Matthew Stumpf, GSA senator; and Meghan Delsite, GSA.



HONORING OUR OWN

Two members of the **IUP Council of Trustees** were honored for service as they leave the council: Gealy Wallwork, a member since 1991; and Erika Fenstermacher, a member since 2015, who is graduating in May.



Teresa Shellenbarger (nursing and allied health) was selected as the 2017-2018 **Distinguished University Professor**. The 2017 University Senate **Distinguished Faculty Award recipients** are: Stanley Chepaitis (music), for creative arts; Todd Thompson (English), for research; Justin Fair (chemistry) for service; and Lisa Price (communication disorders, special education, and disability services) for teaching.

Seven graduates were selected for the IUP Distinguished Alumni Award, which recognizes alumni for pinnacle career achievement. Honorees included: **Ron Donoughe '80**, who specializes in regional landscapes, murals, and commissions; **Colin Helms '93**, head of media for TED, an organization famous for thought-provoking talks and conferences and former vice president of connected content at MTV; **Alan Herman '69, M '71**, chief scientific officer of Coherus Biosciences; **CJ Jaynes, '79, M '82**, the first woman ever to achieve Aviation Maintenance flag rank; **Jim Rose '90**, president and general manager of Seattle's NBC affiliate, KING 5; **Ben McAdoo '00**, head coach of the NFL's New York Giants; **Leslie Miller Purser '80**, a major general in the US Army and a deputy assistant secretary of the Army. McAdoo and Purser were not able to attend but will return to IUP at a later date to receive their awards.

ADDRESSING CONCERNS IN OUR COMMUNITY

IUP personnel in the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs Program; MARTI; the Center for Career and Technical Personnel Preparation, and a number of other departments in the IUP community, have offered many **workshops about the opioid epidemic** and training of the use of naloxone (Narcan), the medication that reverses opioid overdoses. Narcan kits have been offered free of charge to participants in many of the trainings. In 2015, IUP's Institute for Rural Health and Safety secured a \$100,000 grant to provide naloxone rescue kits and training to police and first responders in Indiana County.

In April, IUP President Michael Driscoll and Pennsylvania Secretary of Corrections John Wetzel visited a class at SCI Pine Grove, a correctional institution in Indiana County, being taught by Jamie Martin (Criminology and Criminal Justice), which is part of the **Second Chance Pell pilot program**. IUP is one of four universities in the state selected for a grant to offer federal Pell Grants to qualified incarcerated Americans to pursue postsecondary education. One of the goals of the program is to reduce recidivism.

SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS AND UNIVERSITY

Hundreds of donors, trustees of endowed scholarships, and student-scholarship recipients gathered at the Kovalchick Convention and Athletic Complex in April for the fourth annual **Celebration of Endowed Scholarships**. Bill Scheeren, a 1968 graduate, and his wife, Judy, lifelong educators who reside in Greensburg,

served as guest speakers. The Scheerens recently established an endowed scholarship to benefit IUP students majoring in education.

Eight students participated in the 2017 **Graduate Opportunities Conference** in April in Philadelphia, accompanied by two graduate students who



represented IUP at the graduate school college fair held during the event. Pennsylvania State Senator Vincent Hughes created the conference almost 30 years ago, and it continues to inspire minority college students to pursue their dreams. The trip was funded jointly by the office of IUP President Michael Driscoll and the Center for Multicultural Student Leadership and Engagement.

Topping last year's record-breaking effort, the 2017 **University Family Drive** smashed through the goal of 800 donors, thanks to the help of a dedicated team of 60 volunteers. This year, 823 employees made IUP students a philanthropic priority, placing IUP's employee participation at 57 percent of those actively solicited — the highest percentage ever — supporting 205 different funds on campus. Forty-two areas reached 100-percent participation. More than \$289,000 has been committed by our university community this year, another record high.

RECOGNIZED IN NATIONAL RANKINGS

IUP's bachelor of science degree was ranked 13th in the **top 30 nursing programs in Pennsylvania** by RegisteredNursing.org. The listing looks at how well a program supports students towards licensure and beyond, including past and present National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses pass rates. IUP students continue to excel on the NCLEX-RN. IUP has an overall annual passing average of 95.87 percent, compared to the national average of 84.3 percent and Pennsylvania's average of 87.93 percent for first-time test takers in 2016.

College Values Online has identified IUP's online master's degree program in criminology as a **top best value program**. IUP's program is ranked 15th in the nation among programs that have "flexible, convenient, quality solutions" for professionals seeking to advance their career through education.

