

CELEBRATING SUCCESS

IUP's **student-athletes** had standout seasons, with teams or individuals from four programs qualifying for NCAA Division II tournaments: IUP's men's and women's basketball; women's swimming and diving; and golf. The men's basketball team advanced to the Final Four of the NCAA tournament for the third time in the past 12 years.

The **spring sports season** has had a successful start, with three teams—baseball, women's lacrosse, and women's tennis—entering last weekend with records above .500. Two of those teams, baseball and lacrosse, have had significant turnarounds: A year after going a combined 8-41, the Crimson Hawks are 35-27 so far this season.



A total of 1,722 students are eligible to celebrate the completion of their studies on May 6 and 7 during the university's three **commencement** ceremonies. Of the 1,195 undergraduates, a total of 60 achieved a perfect 4.0 grade-point average and 702 qualified for Latin honors with a GPA of 3.2 or higher. Nineteen graduates were commissioned as Army officers. A total of 234 graduates donated more than \$5,357 for the Senior Class Gift.



A total of 64 students were recognized for excellence in research and creative arts for their work presented during the Scholars Forum, held during the university's annual **Research Appreciation Week**. More than 20 student artists were represented in the Juried Art Exhibition, and 75 research posters were part of the poster presentation session, held concurrently with oral presentations by 40 individual or teams of students.

As part of Research Appreciation Week's **Women in Science** event, Kendra Bass (Biology/Pre-Medicine), received the 2022 Patricia Hilliard Robertson Memorial Scholarship. The late Hilliard Robertson '85 was a physician, an astronaut, and an IUP Distinguished Alumna.



Paige Mikesell (Kinesiology, Health, and Sport Science) was honored as a **“Major of the Year”** by SHAPE America, the Society of Health and Physical Educators, during the organization's national convention in April. A member of the IUP swimming and diving team, she is a Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference Scholar-Athlete and is an Academic All-American.

Oksana Moroz (Composition and Applied Linguistics), from Ukraine, has been selected for the **Emergency Student Fund Award** from the Institute of International Education (IIE) Emergency Fund. With Moroz's selection, eight IUP international students have been chosen for IIE funds during the pandemic from a pool of national applicants. The competitive scholarship requires a nomination from the host institution. Moroz was selected for the grant by the Institute of International Education to help to address financial pressures due to the war in Ukraine.



Jessica Mulvihill (Office of International Education) will travel to Japan in June as the recipient of a **Fulbright International Education Administrator award**. She will be participating in a two-week program with seven other U.S.-based colleagues to learn about the Japanese education system, culture, and history through lectures and meetings.



Chauna Craig (English, Cook Honors College) was honored by the Northeast Regional Honors Council, an affiliate of the National Collegiate Honors Council, during its spring conference as the **Honors Professional of the Year**. Three IUP students were presenters at the conference: Thomas Oraskovich (Regional Planning/Political Science); Callie Bland (Anthropology/Political Science) and Abigail Hancox (Political Science), who was recently elected president of IUP's Student Government Association. IUP received third place in the publications contest for the Honors College alumni newsletter, edited and written by Amy Kukula (English Education/Interdisciplinary Fine Arts).

NEW OPPORTUNITIES, BROADENING STUDENT HORIZONS

IUP is one of only 40 institutions in the nation selected for the Institute of International Education's **American Passport Program**, which will enable 25 Pell Grant-eligible, first-year students to obtain a U.S. passport. Jessica Mulvihill (Office of International Education) authored the proposal for the program, which will include creating a student cohort of selected students, pairing them with IUP student mentors who have studied abroad and offering programming about the advantages of international experiences.

The first **IRMC-IUP Day**, held during Research Appreciation Week, was attended by more than 170 healthcare professionals and students. This event showcased the current collaborations between IUP and Indiana Regional Medical Center, discussed the critical need for rural healthcare professionals, and provided a networking luncheon for students interested in healthcare careers.

For the second year, a group of students will be working with Andrea Palmiotto and William Chadwick (Anthropology) in a **forensic archaeology field school** during the summer month recovering artifacts from an American aircraft crash site from WWII near Frankfurt, Germany.

Scott Semelsberger (Biology/Pre-Med) has been selected for the 2022 **Kopchick Summer Fellowship**. As the recipient, he will spend 10 weeks during the summer doing research at the internationally known MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. John Kopchick '72, M '75, made a \$10.5-million gift to the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center UTHealth Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences to create an endowment that funds up to 15 student fellowships at the cancer center, as well as competitive research awards to students and their faculty mentors. An IUP student has been selected for one of these fellowships annually since 2018.



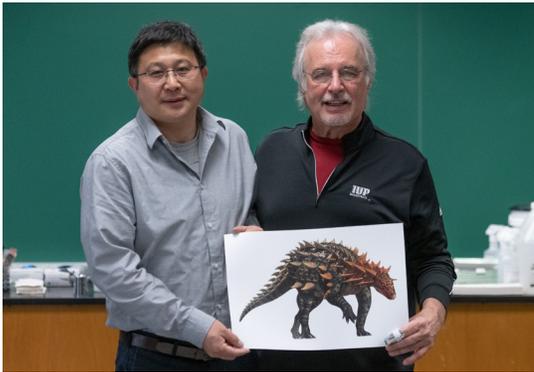
INGREDIENTS FOR A NEW CULINARY FACILITY

IUP's Academy of Culinary Arts building project received \$1.5 million in April: \$1 million from the state **Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program** through the efforts of Rep. Brian Smith (R-66) and Sen. Joe Pittman (R-41); and \$500,000 allocated by Congressman Glenn Thompson (R-15) from the Fiscal Year 2022 Appropriations Bill. This funding adds to \$1 million in RACP funds secured in December 2021 by Rep. Smith and Sen. Pittman, and \$250,000 in RACP funds received in 2018.

The grant funding will help complete the construction of a new, 45,000-square-foot education and multipurpose commercial site anchored in downtown Punxsutawney, with the facility to serve as the main educational, retail, and experiential hub for students and the surrounding community. Total funding received to date for the project totals \$6.11 million, which includes a blend of government funds, individual gifts, corporate and foundation gifts, and gifts in kind.

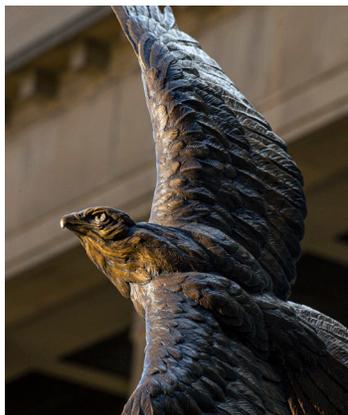
HAWKS HELPING HAWKS TO SOAR

The 2022 Hawks Helping Hawks campaign raised more than \$84,000 to support **student scholarships and experiences**. IUP Day of Giving, part of the month-long campaign, shattered its goal, raising \$40,529 during a 24-hour period on March 24 through 105 donations and “unlocking” a matching gift of \$50,000 from Terry Serafini '61, for the General Student Scholarship, which is open to all students to receive funds based on need or merit.



A CRIMSON HAWK DINOSAUR

Shundong Bi (Biology), part of a team that identified a **new species of dinosaur** in China, named the discovery after John Kopchick '72, M '75. The discovery of the new dinosaur, *Yuxisaurus kopchicki*, which resembles a stegosaurus, has been featured in scientific and popular media all over the world.



CREATING NEW TRADITIONS

A crimson hawk statue, donated by Ray Kinter, '67, M'68, was dedicated in April. It is located outside the Performing Arts Center.

Celebrating Latino culture and intersectionality, IUP's Latino Student Organization (LaSO) recreated the university's **Unity Ball** tradition. Norman Bristol Colón, the chief diversity officer and director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, was the keynote speaker for the event. During his remarks, he presented scholarships for members of the LaSO executive board to attend the upcoming Pennsylvania Latino Convention in honor of their work and leadership at IUP.

TO OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP

Following a national search, Dr. Lara Luetkehans, who has been serving as the interim **provost and vice president for Academic Affairs**, has been selected for the permanent position.



Wang Xi, professor of history, was selected as the **2022-23 Distinguished University Professor**. During his DUP year, he plans to create a course focusing on U.S. immigration history for IUP students and complete a book manuscript, tentatively titled “Make Every Freeman a Voter: The American Story of Black Suffrage.”

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Hundreds of students and members of the IUP Community participated in the Haven Project's **Take Back the Night**, its annual event to raise awareness of sexual assault and to show support for survivors. Evening activities included chalking messages of support throughout the Oak Grove, followed by the lighting of luminarias, with each of the 1,783 lights representing an IUP student impacted by sexual violence.

More than 100 students offered 200 hours of service to four community nonprofit agencies and organizations through IUP's **Into the Streets** service event in April.