

# INDIANA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA POINTS OF PRIDE



## RECOGNIZING SUCCESSFUL ALUMNI

The IUP Ambassadors recently honored six alumni for their early career success. **Young Alumni Achievement Award recipients** returned to campus to share their insights with current students and to accept their awards at a recognition luncheon. Recipients must have graduated within 15 years of the time of their nomination. They are David Andrews '05, M'08, executive director, YMCA of Greater New York (College of Health and Human Services); Tom Baker M'05, Allegheny County councilman and chief community affairs officer, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh (College of Education and Educational Technology); Erin Lambert '05, assistant professor of history, University of Virginia (College of Humanities and Social Sciences); Andrew Melhorn '08, senior account manager, Smith & Nephew, Inc. (Eberly College of Business and Information Technology); Rebecca Mir '10, associate manager, Digital Media and Online Learning, Guggenheim Museum (College of Fine Arts); and Michael Moyer '04, COO and partner, Environmental Services Laboratories and Environmental Land Surveying and Solutions (College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics). The IUP Ambassadors organization serves the university as the student arm of the IUP Alumni Association.

## UNIVERSITY ACCOLADES AND EXCELLENCE

For the seventh consecutive year, *Washington Monthly* selected IUP for its **national ranking of schools based on contributions to society**. The magazine selected only 11 universities in Pennsylvania for recognition in 2015. Editors also included IUP in the magazine's rankings of **"best bang for the buck" universities** in *The Other College Guide: A Roadmap for the Right School for You*.

Best College Reviews named the Allegheny Arboretum at IUP to its list of the **most beautiful college arboretums**. The Allegheny Arboretum was ranked 10th out of 50 college

arboretums selected. The ranking was determined in part by the North American Plant Collections Consortium. Established in 2000, the Allegheny Arboretum encompasses all 374 acres of the IUP campus, including a 150-acre woodland.

The National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security named IUP a national **Center for Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education**. IUP is one of only six institutions in Pennsylvania and one of 102 in the nation to receive the designation, recognizing the strength of its cybersecurity programs.

Following a national survey in 2014, HP Enterprise Security named IUP to its list of **"Best Schools for Cybersecurity,"** ranking IUP in the top 25 percent of all schools offering cybersecurity programs. Only four Pennsylvania colleges and universities were in the top quartile. The **National Cyber Security Alliance** also ranked IUP among its "champion" organizations.

For the fifth consecutive year, Victory Media, publisher of *G.I. Jobs*, *STEM Jobs*, and *Military Spouse* magazines, selected IUP for its list of **Military Friendly Schools**. The list honors institutions described as delivering "the best experience for military students."

Graduates of IUP's bachelor's degree program in nursing have a **first-time passing rate for the nursing licensure examination that surpasses the state and national averages**. During the reporting period of October 2014 to September 2015, the National Council Licensure Examination-Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN) pass rate for IUP's first-time test takers was 92 percent. In comparison, the pass rates for this same report period were 87 percent statewide and 84 percent nationally.

*Lyme Disease in Pennsylvania*, a report drafted by the Pennsylvania Department of Health's Task Force on Lyme Disease and Related Tick-Borne Diseases, recognized IUP for its **tick surveillance capacity** and designated the university a **suggested support organization**. IUP's recognition is the result of work by biology professor Tom Simmons and his student researchers.

### GRANT SUCCESS

Deanne Snavely, dean of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, is part of a consortium of western Pennsylvania and northern Ohio universities **promoting gender equity for faculty members in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) programs**. Snavely will work with two faculty members from Case Western Reserve on the project, funded through a three-year, \$750,000 grant from the National Science Foundation's Advance program.

Jon Lewis, professor of geoscience, received a grant of \$182,000 from the National Science Foundation to enhance undergraduate STEM diversity and participation in geoscience training. The project involves making use of unused berthing space on research ships to provide students with **immersive geoscience experiences at sea**.

Lara Luetkehans, dean of the College of Education and Educational Technology, and Michele Petrucci, assistant vice president for International Education and Global Engagement, received a grant of \$185,000 from the US Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, International Research and Exchange Board, for their project, **"International Leaders in Education Host University."**

The Institute for Rural Health and Safety received a \$100,000 grant from the US Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, for a project to help **prevent deaths from opioid overdoses**. The grant provides naloxone rescue kits and funds training sessions for law enforcement and emergency medical responders in Indiana County.

Tim Runge, Department of Educational and School Psychology, received \$105,584 in funding from the US Department of Health and Human Services for his project, **"Safe Schools/Healthy Students."**

Biology professor Jeff Larkin received \$65,175 in funding from the American Bird Conservancy for his project, **"Migratory Connectivity of Wintering Golden-Winged Warblers."**



### DINING INNOVATIONS

The **newly renovated Folger Dining Hall** officially opened in October during Homecoming weekend. This renovated facility is the second phase of IUP's \$37-million dining master plan, IUP Dining Innovations. The \$13.75-million renovation project began in May 2014. Dining Innovations concludes with Phase III, North Dining: A Destination, to be completed in fall 2017. Dining revenues fund the renovation and construction of all facilities in the Dining Innovations plan. The IUP Council of Trustees approved the campus dining master plan in December 2011.

### UNIVERSITY READINESS

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has approved IUP's **Hazard Mitigation Plan**. The process began in January 2014 through the collaboration of university stakeholders, Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education, and a consultant planner. This plan outlines ways to protect people and property from the effects of future natural and human-made disasters.

