

# INDIANA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA POINTS OF PRIDE



IUP



**RECEIVING NATIONAL ACCOLADES**—*U.S. News & World Report* ranked IUP's Master of Arts in Criminology online program among the top 10 online graduate criminal justice programs. The selection is based on factors including admissions selectivity, faculty credentials, and academic and career support services. IUP's program was recognized for its high new-student retention rate, ranging from 98 percent to 100 percent in recent years, and it ranked in the top quartile for student engagement and at the top of the third quartile for faculty credentials and training.

## **BUILDING STRONG PARTNERSHIPS**

- The Indiana Area Collaborative Team, which includes members of the IUP and Indiana communities, continues to meet to promote safe, positive experiences by minimizing disruptive gatherings and behaviors in the community. I-ACT launched its joint public information officer model in advance of Homecoming 2014, which resulted in consistent university-community messages. Planning is well under way for spring 2015.
- The draft plan for the Indiana Community University District was unveiled in February at the third community workshop. The project is a highly focused planning effort for the areas surrounding the campus and continues to include many IUP students.

## **SECURING IUP'S FUTURE**

- A total of 2,434 people—a 14.4 percent response rate—completed all or part of the survey designed to answer research questions for the drafting of IUP's self-study for reaccreditation by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. The next step will be producing the draft self-study report. IUP is in the process of its decennial university accreditation review.
- The university's draft strategic plan, developed by Provost Timothy Moerland and the University Planning Council,

is now in the feedback and revision stage, and planners are actively seeking public feedback. The plan has four overarching goals: provide innovative academic programs of high quality and value; prepare all of IUP's students for success in work and life, in addition to academic success; secure IUP's financial future; and strengthen IUP's value to local, state, and global partners.

- As part of the university's tuition flexibility pilot, which will go into effect in fall 2015, two new programs—one based on need and the other on academic excellence—will provide financial support to qualified undergraduate students who domicile in Pennsylvania. The university also will offer tuition discounts of 7 percent, 4 percent, and 1 percent, respectively, during the first three years of the pilot. The program was developed as part of a three-pronged approach to address current and future budget challenges at IUP.
- In February, IUP launched a reorganization plan to stabilize undergraduate and graduate enrollment; expand the range of students served; and support scholarship and funded research. As part of this reorganization, Randy Martin, a longtime professor in the Department of Criminology and most recently an assistant dean in the College of Health and Human Services, has been appointed to serve as dean of the School of Graduate Studies and Research.



- All IUP employees and student workers, as well as interested students, will be trained on Title IX laws and the Protection of Minors policy of Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education. This initiative is part of the university's commitment to establishing and maintaining a community free from all forms of discrimination and harassment, and to promote the safety and security of minors who visit campus or participate in university programs.

### SPOTLIGHTING STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- This spring, two IUP students are participating in the Harrisburg Internship Semester (THIS), sponsored by the State System. The program provides students the opportunity to work in all areas of state government. Tiffany Fox, a criminology/pre-law major, will work for the Center for Rural Pennsylvania; Julie McBride, a political science major, is working for the Department of State with a prosecuting attorney.
- Six secondary science education students presented original research on student learning at the Pennsylvania Science Teachers Association conference. The state association is affiliated with the National Science Teachers Association.
- Three geoscience students presented original research at the American Geophysical Union meeting in San Francisco in December. Also, 2014 graduate and Goldwater Scholarship recipient Dan O'Hara presented research at the conference with geoscience faculty member Jon Lewis, his former advisor.
- Hospitality management major Brianne Lenhart was selected as the IUP recipient of the AT&T Communications Scholarship, offered through the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education Foundation, Inc.

### RECOGNIZING GRANT-FUNDED RESEARCH

- Anthropology faculty member Ben Ford was selected as the 2014-15 Archaeological Institute of America McCann-Taggart Underwater Archaeology Lecturer. Ford has done extensive research on the War of 1812 shipwrecks in Lake Ontario through projects funded in part by an IUP Senate Research Grant.
- Food and Nutrition faculty member Jodie Seybold received a grant for training the department's dietetic interns to conduct educational grocery store tours for families in the Indiana County Head Start program and other groups. Kimberly Jones '08, '11, a registered dietitian for Giant Eagle, conducted the training.



- Anthropology graduate student Casey Campetti received a grant from the Great Lakes Research and Education Center for a project that involves interpreting the lives and behaviors of the prehistoric residents of what is now Isle Royale, Michigan.

### APPLAUDING ACHIEVEMENTS IN THEATER

- Theater and Dance faculty member April Daras won a 2015 Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival Innovative Teaching Prize for her work in crafting new courses and performance opportunities through applied theater. Her course, the Performance of Caring, is designed for nursing students and features student actors as simulated patients. She also has developed simulations for IUP's Psychology and Educational and School Psychology doctoral programs.
- Four IUP students also received awards at the 2015 Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival in the categories of design, technology, stage management, and directing. Chelsea Kikel, winner of the Kennedy Center Award for Sound Design and a Stagecraft Institute award, will attend a week of workshops at the Kennedy Center in April and a week of intensive study this summer in Las Vegas.

