

INDIANA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA POINTS OF PRIDE



IUP

FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Communications media professor Mary Beth Leidman's film *Intersecting Sparks: Art and Science, Research, and Imagination* was selected for screening at the **National Communications Association (NCA) Film Festival**. This hourlong documentary aired on regional PBS affiliate WPSU and is included in major university film library collections. Thomas Brown, a student in the PhD in Communications Media and Instructional Technology program, acted as assistant producer and editor. This is the first time an IUP faculty member has won a place in a national film festival.

A team of IUP experts was part of the **annual Health, Safety, Security, and Environment Conference and Exhibition**, sponsored by the American Chamber of Commerce of Trinidad and Tobago. The conference, *Managing Risk in Economic Uncertainty*, drew more than 300 professionals from the business community, public sector, regulatory agencies, and nongovernmental organizations. For the first time, the conference included a cybersecurity track, coordinated by Bill Balint, IUP's chief information officer. Invited presenters included members of the IUP Research Institute; Mark Correia, dean of the College of Health and Human Services; Ben Dadson and Craig Pluchinsky, of Information Technology Services; and criminology faculty members Jennifer Gossett and Zavin Nazaretian.

Photographer's Forum magazine selected Louisa Sanders, of Seward, as a finalist in a **national college photography competition**. Her photograph was published in the magazine's *Best of College & High School Photography 2015*. Sanders is a communications media major also pursuing a certificate in photography and digital imaging.

Michele Papakie, chair of the Department of Journalism and Public Relations and a lieutenant colonel in the Pennsylvania

Air National Guard, was recognized with the **Octavius V. Catto Award for outstanding public service**.

The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars selected Diane Stipcak, of IUP's Career and Professional Development Center, as **Liaison of the Year**. More than 500 colleges and universities participate in the Washington Center program. During the 13 years Stipcak has coordinated the program at IUP, approximately 200 students have participated in the educational internships and have received more than \$1 million in scholarships.

Casey Jarding, a junior majoring in family and consumer sciences education, was one of five national winners of a scholarship from the **National Association of Teachers of Family and Consumer Sciences**.

Amanda Wright, a senior majoring in culinary dietetics, is the first recipient of the **Jones White Student Writing Award**, cosponsored by the Writing across the Curriculum program and the Kathleen Jones White Writing Center. Wright will graduate in May 2016. She began her IUP education at the Academy of Culinary Arts in Punxsutawney and was valedictorian of its Class of 2011.

History faculty member and Distinguished University Professor Lynn Botelho was part of the US women's foil team that won the World Championship title at the **Veterans Fencing World Championships** in Limoges, France, in October. Botelho is ranked 22nd in the world.

Senior music education major Sarah Hetrick won the **Music Teachers National Association's Young Artist Performance Competition** at the state level in the woodwind category. Hetrick is now Pennsylvania's woodwind representative in the Eastern Division competition in January at Rowan University in New Jersey.

There, she'll compete for a spot in the national competition in April. Hetrick is principal saxophonist with the IUP Wind Ensemble and lead alto saxophonist with the IUP Jazz Ensemble.

Indiana Borough Council's Public Safety Committee honored Marcia Newman, IUP NAACP chapter president, with the **Appreciation of Community Commitment Award**. The award recognized Newman's dedication to addressing and alleviating "the discrimination found in our society, starting at home in Indiana, PA."

REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE FOR STUDENTS

Senior political science major James Smith became the first IUP student elected to **Indiana Borough Council**. He will begin his tenure in January. Smith received a 2014 Emerging Student Leader Grant Award for his IUP Community Tour project. He is also a member of student organization the Pulse, the IUP Day organizing committee, and the Monte Carlo Night planning committee. He took part in a community-university forum in 2014.

Twelve biology students worked with professor Tom Simmons to create a **statewide survey of blacklegged ticks** infected with Lyme disease and other human pathogens and a **population study of ticks in western Pennsylvania**. Both studies were published in October in the *Journal of Medical Entomology*. Students are listed as authors or coauthors of the report. Six of the students presented a workshop, "Safely Exploring the Woods in the Age of Ticks and Lyme Disease," at the Northern Appalachian Folk Festival in downtown Indiana.

Students from the American Chemical Society and Alpha Chi Sigma chemistry honor fraternity gave presentations at the Carnegie Science Center as part of **National Chemistry Week** events.

Thirteen students from the International Business Association of the Eberly College of Business and Information Technology attended the **American Society for Competitiveness** conference in Washington, DC. Students interacted with scholars from IUP and from around the world, which gave them a chance to learn about international scholarship.

Twenty IUP students in biology faculty member Holly Travis's Dendrology and Fundamentals of Environmental Epidemiology classes helped out at **Crooked Creek Environmental Learning Center** in Ford City in November. The nonprofit center promotes environmental education and resource conservation for schools, families, and organizations in Armstrong County and surrounding areas.



Kimberly Ghorm, a biology/pre-med major, and Kara McClain, a nursing major and McNair Scholar, presented their medical microbiology research at a meeting of the **American Society for Microbiology's Allegheny Branch** in November. McClain won the Award of Excellence in Microbiology for her first-place Undergraduate Medical Poster Presentation.

Nearly 30 students in professor Stephanie Taylor-Davis's Methods of Teaching Food and Nutrition class partnered with the Indiana Free Library for a special **nutrition and literacy fair for children**. The ABCs of Nutrition included a station for each letter of the alphabet and offered nutrition education, activities, and samples at some of the stations. The IUP students developed the lessons for each of the stations.

