

# Indiana University of Pennsylvania Points of Pride



A POSITION OF STRENGTH



During its annual **Celebration of Philanthropy**, campaign co-chair William Madia '69, M'71, announced the Imagine Unlimited campaign, originally expected to reach \$40 million, has reached \$53 million and the goal has been extended to \$75 million. Additional highlights of the evening included:

- Tim and Deb Cejka (1973 graduates) announced a commitment of an **additional \$2 million to the \$5 million they have already given**; this gift completes the match required by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of General Services to begin construction of the new science and mathematics facility; and
- Dr. John '72, M'75 and Char Kopchick '73, announced that they would contribute \$23 million toward science and mathematics initiatives—the **largest single gift in the university's history**.

Members of the university family exceeded the goal of the **University Family Campaign**: a total of 830 faculty and staff joined 850 students in giving, resulting in a 58-percent participation rate for employees, the highest rate ever. A total of 65 volunteers helped with the campaign, which included 46 departments at 100 percent participation. With a matching gift from Terry Serafini '61, a total of \$202,000 was raised, supporting 212 scholarships and programs funds.

Following a national search, President Dr. Michael Driscoll selected Khatmeh Osseiran-Hanna as the **Vice President for University Advancement**.

Aaron Seidel, a senior geoscience/applied mathematics/environmental engineering major, is IUP's eighth **Goldwater Scholarship recipient**. It is the pre-eminent undergraduate award of its type. Seidel also made history by becoming the first IUP student to win at the annual **Undergraduate at the Capitol Pennsylvania** poster competition.

Eight alumni were honored through the **Distinguished Alumni Awards** program, the IUP Alumni Association's highest award:

- Stephen Abel '73, retired deputy commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and founding director, veterans programs and services for Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey
- Susan Cospers '92, Financial Accounting Standards Board technical director and chairman of the Emerging Issues Task Force
- Rose Dill Glenn '82, senior vice president and chief communications and experience officer for Detroit's Henry Ford Health System
- Michael Madigan '80, M '86, artist
- Charles Neral '80, founder and CEO, Neral Associates, LLC
- James Renacci '80, U.S. Representative, Ohio's 16th district
- John Ninosky '93, attorney, president of board of directors of alumni association (award for service)
- Leslie Miller Purser '80, retired Major General of US Army (2017 recipient)

As part of the weekend of alumni celebration, Cospers, Glen, Purser, and Patricia Neral '81 participated in the **Eberly College of Business and Information Technology Women's Leadership Panel**.

More than 500 students had the opportunity to attend the 40th annual **Business Day**, the premier professional development and networking event for the Eberly College of Business and Information Technology. The event recognized Hall of Distinction honorees Steven Agnoli '86, David Bluemling '85, and Rebecca Stapleton '84.

The **Task Force on Undergraduate Retention and Persistence** (TOUR) has completed its work to develop a set of specific recommendations designed to increase undergraduate retention and persistence rates at IUP to 80 percent by 2022. TOUR was created as a collaborative effort by Vice President for Enrollment Management Patricia McCarthy, Provost Timothy Moerland, and Vice President for Student Affairs Rhonda Luckey.

**Research Appreciation Week** included the annual luncheon celebrating achievement in faculty, staff, graduate student research, sponsored program awards, and deans' outstanding researcher awards. More than 300 students participated in the annual Undergraduate and Graduate Research Forums.

On April 26, the **Kovalchick Convention and Athletic Complex** welcomed its one-millionth patron since opening in its doors on March 4, 2011.

More than 2,300 graduates are expected to participate in three **commencement ceremonies** on May 11 and 12 at the Kovalchick Convention and Athletic Complex. Of the bachelor's degree applicants, 906 qualify for Latin honors with grade-point averages of 3.25 or above, and 43 are graduating with perfect 4.0 grade-point averages.



Dr. Jeffery Larkin (biology) has been selected the **2018-2019 Distinguished University Professor**, based on his demonstrated excellence in teaching, scholarship, and service. His more than 60 external awards have secured more than \$6 million for research focused on the habitat and ecology of threatened wildlife species. Faculty members who are awarded the honor hold the title for life.



Recipients of the 2018 **University Senate Awards** will be recognized at commencement: P. Michael Kosicek (Management), Distinguished Faculty Award for Teaching; Jeff Larkin (Biology), Distinguished Faculty Award for Research; R. Scott Moore (History), Distinguished Faculty Award for Service; and Evelyn (Lynn) Mocek, executive staff assistant to the provost, Award for Staff Service.

## DIVERSITY

The **Free Speech Project** has developed a series of videos and resources to address free speech and what it means on a university campus. The theme for the project, "Words: Use Responsibly" will be prominent through the 2018-2019 academic year.



IUP's annual **Unity Day** drew thousands from the IUP and area community, with 28 countries represented by displays and food, including 10 booths by visiting educators here through the International Leaders in Education Program.

Faculty member Resa Crane Bizzaro (English) was selected as the recipient of the eighth annual **Ray Coppler Disability Awareness Award**. The award recognizes an IUP faculty, staff, or administrative member for outstanding commitment to enhancing the inclusion and success of IUP's students with disabilities through exemplary efforts to develop and provide greater accessibility.

Following the Six O'Clock series "**An Evening with Holocaust Survivor Moshe Baran**" on April 9, faculty members from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences and the College of Fine Arts came together to lead more than 100 members of the IUP community in breakout sessions. These sessions encouraged students, faculty, and community members to engage in creative reflections on the themes of Baran's talk. The reflections event was coordinated by Michelle Sandhoff (Sociology).

The **Racial Justice Coalition for Change** continued its monthly Stand Against Racism and Hate. The event represents a commitment to uphold the values of diversity, inclusion, respect, and tolerance for all — regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, immigration status, national origin, gender identity, sexual orientation, social class, or ability.

IUP's Student Government Association hosted a **Multicultural Festival** to showcase IUP's diversity and its multicultural organizations. The event featured music, performances, food and prizes.

