IUP MAKING AN IMPACT

... In Our Community
IUP received $1 million in Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program funds to advance the Academy of Culinary Arts master plan. Senator Joe Pittman and Representative Brian Smith secured the funds for the initiative.

Members of IUP fraternities and sororities raised almost $7,500 for the Salvation Army of Indiana to help needy families during the holidays. The Salvation Army Red Kettle kickoff breakfast was held at IUP’s Kovalchick Convention and Athletic Complex.

IUP Best Buddies, a club that pairs students with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, raised $2,700 in support of the buddies and families in the local community through a bingo night. IUP Best Buddies has been recognized as Pennsylvania’s Chapter of the Month for November.

Sharon Massey and Sean Derry (Art) raised $1,000 for the Indiana Free Library through “Common Goods,” a pop-up store featuring laser-cut paper packages of items by students in Massey and Derry’s 3D Design classes.

... In Our Commonwealth
Louis Pesci (Center for Rural Health and Safety) and Timothy Runge (Psychology) have received more than $1 million over the past three years from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to continue a project to help to make training of high school age drivers more effective.

IUP’s Occupational Health and Safety Program (OSHA), administered by the Department of Safety Sciences, has been working for the past 40 years to protect the lives and health of millions of Pennsylvania workers.

Nearly one million Pennsylvania workers have been removed from unsafe work hazards in the last six years as a result of this work, and Pennsylvania businesses have saved more than $39 million in both direct and indirect costs in just one year. Since the 2007-08 fiscal year, IUP has received more than $25.6 million for the project (ranging from $1.5 million in 2008-09 to $1.95 million in 2019-20 and 2020-21. The Pennsylvania OSHA Consultation Project has been the largest recurring grant program at IUP since the 2007-08 fiscal year.

IUP’s Administration and Leadership Studies Research and Training Center (ALS-RTC) celebrated six years of collaboration and millions of dollars in support with the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency to provide research, evaluation, and advisory services for the agency, its board, and numerous advisory committees.

... In Our Nation
Wanda Minnick (Safety Sciences) has received a $30,000 grant from the MEMIC Group, of Maine, to research “Slips, Trips and Falls,” to help address injury prevention in the workplace.

... In Our World
IUP held a week of events to celebrate International Education Week, including a naturalization ceremony. A total of 28 candidates for citizenship from 21 countries took the oath of citizenship during the ceremony, which included remarks by IUP President Michael Driscoll. IUP welcomed more than 400 international students from 53 countries in fall 2021.

Vice President for University Advancement Khatmeh Osseiran–Hanna has gifted IUP with $25,000 to establish the Osseiran–Hanna Endowed Scholarship for international students at IUP.

IUP.edu
December 2021
For the sixth consecutive year, IUP hosted international educators through the Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Program for International Teachers. Lara Luetkehans (interim provost and vice president for Academic Affairs) and Michele Petrucci (Office of International Education) secured the grant funding. The 18 educators, who represented 11 countries from five continents, spent time at IUP, in the local school district, and in the Pittsburgh Public School District. The program offers educators experiences relevant to their education practice in their home countries.

RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE

IUP is ranked as one of the top universities in the nation in the Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education 2022 rankings. IUP is ranked highly for engagement, which includes a measurement of student engagement, student recommendations, student interaction, and breadth of opportunities for involvement; and also is strong in the environment rankings, which measures international students, student diversity, faculty diversity, and student inclusion.

IUP is one of only six public universities in Pennsylvania selected as one of “America’s Top Colleges 2021” by Forbes magazine, and was selected for the best public colleges listing, best research universities listing, and best in the northeast listing.

Guide and Rankings, based on “what universities do for the country,” IUP is also the only public university in the state selected for the publication’s “Best Bang for the Buck” (northeast) rankings.

For the 28th consecutive year, IUP has been selected as one of the “Best National Universities” by U.S. News & World Report. IUP is also one of only four universities in Pennsylvania ranked as a Top Public university and is one of only 18 universities selected for the National Universities listing. IUP is also included in the Top Performers in Social Mobility ranking, one of only 18 universities in the state selected for this recognition.

John Benhart Jr. (Geography, Geology, Environment, and Planning) was selected for two state-level awards, one for service and one for mentorship, at the Pennsylvania Geographical Society meeting held in York on November 5.

COMMITMENT TO STUDENT-CENTEREDNESS

A total of 642 students who completed requirements for their degrees in December and January will celebrate their graduation from IUP on December 11. Students earned 427 bachelor’s degrees, one associate degree, 179 master’s degrees, and 35 doctoral degrees.

Employees, students, alumni, and friends donated more than $29,000 for student scholarships and other university needs during the 2021 Giving Tuesday event, exceeding the goal by 200 percent.

IUP received $605,244 from the Department of Education for the Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) program, designed to help low-income student-parents stay in school and graduate. This program provides up to 40 hours of childcare (including before and after-school care) at nationally accredited childcare centers, covering up to 60 to 90 percent of childcare costs.

Kyle Kubicko (Hotel, Restaurant, Tourism, and Event Management), a senior from Natrona Heights, is IUP’s first Statler Foundation Scholarship of Excellence recipient. The $25,000 scholarship is awarded based on academic excellence, character, and commitment to the industry.