

Issue Highlights:

Civil Rights and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Awareness:

- ◆ Coppler Disability Awareness Award
- ◆ Department of History, Philosophy, Political Science, and Religious Studies
- ◆ Diverse Student Organizations
- ◆ Free Speech Project
- ◆ Haven Project and Green Dot
- ◆ IUP Values Me
- ◆ Office of International Education
- ◆ President's Commission on the Status of Women at IUP (Women's Commission)
- ◆ STEM Women's Summit
- ◆ Women's and Gender Studies

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Healing Garden Memorial

Service: May 5th at 11:30 a.m. in the Wallwork Courtyard

2025 Student, Employee, and Organization Leadership

Awards: April 24th at 5:30 p.m. in the Sutton Hall Blue Room



Blood Drive: April 25th (Noon-5:00 p.m.) in the Folger Student Center

Lavender Graduation:

April 25th at 2:00 p.m. in the Elkin Hall Great Room



Congrats, Graduates!



"The horizon leans forward, offering you space to place new steps of change."

~ Maya Angelou

IUP Celebrates Women

The IUP community came together for multiple events this semester in celebration, support, and recognition of women.

The annual **IUP Women's Leadership Awards Ceremony** took place on April 2nd, sponsored by the **Women's and Gender Studies Program**, the **President's Commission on the Status of Women**, the **Social Equity and Title IX Office**, and the APSCUF Faculty Wellness Grant.

Three students were awarded scholarships during the event: Jasmine Bishnoi and Marie Smith (WGS and Social Equity awards) and Taniyah Thomas (WGS award).

Employees recognized during the ceremony were Lingyan Yang, Ann Sesti, Jennifer McCroskey, Elise Glenn, Alea Perry, and Michele Petrucci.

Congratulations to all!



Left: Anna Cutshall, recipient of the 2025 Patricia Hilliard Robertson Memorial Scholarship for Outstanding Female Science Student

Held on April 7th, the annual **STEM Women's Summit** was presented by the **Kopchick College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics** and included student research posters, networking, the presentation of the Patricia Hilliard Robertson Memorial Scholarship, and a keynote speech by IUP alumna Bonnie Anderson.

On March 29th, the **Office of Student Life** hosted "**Her Journey, Our Inspiration: A Women's Conference**," in which participants enjoyed interesting breakout sessions, group discussions, and an insightful keynote address.



Above: Members of the Women In Business student organization attend the Women's Conference

Left: 2025 Scholarship and Women's Leadership Award recipients



"IUP Values Me" was a popular section in the weekly **Social Equity & Title IX Digest**

recognizing students and staff for their leadership and involvement on campus, and their great work assisting our campus community with DEI and civil rights growth and awareness. We are honored to work with these individuals!

Student spotlights this year have included: **Symia Talmuty-Loomis**, **Marisol Gonzales-Flores**, **Ivy Slope**, **Shagufta Haque**, **Jasmine Bishnoi**, **Isalah Perdue**, **Kelli Sheehan**, **Eric Crawford**, **Malaika Wilmore**, **Dasani Thomas**, **Israt Momo**, **Alexis Jardine**, **Jenells Roman**, and **Colton Isler**.

Staff spotlights this year were: **Roger Briscoe**, **Mimi Benjamin**, **Michele Petrucci**, **Dave Berberich**, **Bryant Pinder**, **Eisha Hollday**, **Vicky Ortiz**, **Dawn Smith-Sherwood**, **Curtis Schelb**, **Rachel Sternfeld**, **John Lowery**, **Kristine Rowley**, **Kelly Helder**, **Melanie Duncan**, **Jessica Miller**, **Elise Glenn**, and **Karen Mathe**.

The **President's Commission on the Status of Women (Women's Commission)** have offered an **Empowering Women Series** all semester. The last of these educational programs, "I'm a Work in Progress," will be presented on May 2nd at 3:00 p.m. in Kopchick Hall, room 104.

The Social Equity and Title IX Office assists in fostering a campus environment that values individual differences and promotes diversity, equity, and inclusion. Reaching this goal is best accomplished if all are involved—and each member of the campus community can contribute to the mission.

The office oversees the reporting of issues or problems, programming to support the message that moves us forward, and education and training to equip us all with the tools to contribute to positive change.

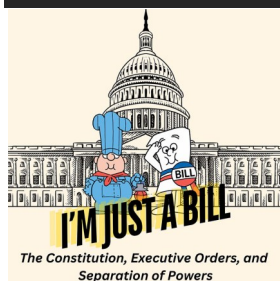
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Social Equity & Title IX News



Melanie Duncan was joined by co-presenters Alea Perry and Gwen Torges on March 17th for a discussion on “**The Constitution, Executive Orders, and Separation of Powers.**” This important event was co-sponsored by our office, the **Free Speech Project**, and the **Department of History, Philosophy, Political Science, and Religious Studies.**

The office was proud to again be part of the annual **Take Back the Night** event on April 9th, hosted by the **Haven Project** and **Green Dot**. The evening included opening remarks and activities in the Oak Grove, the march to the HUB, and a survivor support and speak out in the HUB Ohio Room. We thank all participants!



Thank you to all of the contributors and loyal readers of the weekly **Social Equity & Title IX Digest**. You helped make it such a successful endeavor!

Notable Programming and Events

Our office collaborates on campus-wide programs, celebrations, dialogues, and trainings. We thank the many student groups, offices, and departments for their efforts on all of the programming done this semester!



Of note, our diverse student organizations hosted many exciting events, some of which included: the **Asian Studies Club** and the **Chinese Language and Culture Club** (CLCC) hosted a **Chinese New Year Celebration** for the campus on January 31st; the **Pan African Student Association** (PASA) hosted an “**African Soirée**” on April 5th; the **South Asian Student Association** (SASA) collaborated with the **Graduate Student Association** (GSA) for an evening of arts and crafts on April 10th; and throughout the semester, the **Latino Student Organization** (LaSO) opened their regular meetings to the community to hear guest speakers and to join in creative activities such as pottery making and weaving.



The **Office of International Education** had a very busy semester and hosted numerous events for our international students and the entire campus community. Their **International Tea Time** on February 27th was a unique showcase of cultures from around the world and was appreciated by all who attended. The office continued their Small Talks, Culture Cafes, field trips to local attractions, and International Lunch Hours, just to name a few of their semester highlights. One special activity was hosting visiting students from the University of Miyazaki in Japan.



The **Department for Disability Access and Advising (D2A2)** will soon be announcing the **2025 Coppler Disability Awareness Award** recipient. The award honors and gives recognition to an IUP student who has displayed exemplary and creative contributions within the past year toward disability awareness, advocacy, accessibility, support, and/or education. The award will be presented during the **Delta Alpha Pi International Honor Society's** spring ceremony. Please contact disability-access@iup.edu for further information.



The IUP **Haven Project** and **Green Dot Bystander Intervention Program** held numerous table events and volunteer trainings this semester



regarding consent, healthy relationships, domestic/dating violence awareness, positive masculinity, and the **It's On Us** campaign. Follow them at [@iuphaven](https://twitter.com/iuphaven) and [@iup_greendot](https://twitter.com/iup_greendot).

