

DEVELOPMENTS NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2026,
VOLUME 40 ISSUE 2



Susan Storrick Timko, MA

The Student Affairs in Higher Education program is pleased to announce this year's recipient of the Ronald Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award, Susan Storrick Timko, MA (SAHE Class of 1991). Susan currently serves as the director of academic advising and policy for the master of science of computational finance program at Carnegie Mellon University.

Timko's career has mainly focused on higher education and student affairs, where she has spent over 20 years helping students succeed through career services, advising, and program development. She has worked in leadership roles, building connections with employers and supporting students' academic and professional growth. She also gained experience in the corporate world at Microsoft, where she focused on operations and employee engagement. She now brings both higher education and corporate experience into her current role, supporting students through advising and improving academic programs.

The colleagues and other SAHE alumni who nominated Timko for this award emphasized her multitude of talents and skills, particularly her meaningful impact in educational environments and her exemplary leadership skills. One nominator noted, "She has a natural ability to inspire and guide others, fostering an environment of growth and development for both students and colleagues." Another said, "She was instrumental in expanding employment opportunities for our master of information systems management students, building corporate partnerships across the United States and internationally." The Lunardini Award selection committee (comprised of SAHE faculty, students, and alumni) found that she meets and exceeds the award criteria.

The Ronald Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award, which began in 2006, was created to acknowledge an alumna/alumnus of the SAHE program whose experiences and accomplishments as a student affairs professional significantly reflect the standards and values of the SPS program/SAHE program. In 2008, in recognition of Lunardini's 37 years of service at IUP (18 as a SAHE faculty member), the award title was changed to honor him. More information about the award and a list of previous award recipients is available at [Ronald Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award](#).

With the generous support of [Ron and Peggy Lunardini](#), the recipient also receives a \$1,500 gift, providing the opportunity to contribute meaningfully to an educational program of their choice. Timko chose to donate the award funds to the [IUP Food Pantry and Help Center](#). This contribution will help increase the resources available to students experiencing food insecurity and other related challenges.

Table of Contents:

- DAA.....1
- Coordinator's Corner.....2
- Faculty Update.....3
- Retirement Update.....4
- Alumni Updates.....5-8
- ASD.....9
- Alumna Honored by ACPA.....10
- Alumnus Named VP for Student Affairs....11
- SAHE Faculty at NASPA.....12
- SAHE at NASPA.....13-14
- National Student Employment Week.....15
- Spring Semester Highlights.....16
- Note from the Editors.....17

SAHE Faculty:

John Wesley Lowery, *Coordinator*
jlowery@iup.edu

Mimi Benjamin, *Faculty*
mimi.benjamin@iup.edu

Co-Editors:

Cameron Horton ('26)

Amara Bender ('27)

COORDINATOR'S CORNER



Dr. John Wesley Lowery

Greetings from SAHE! I hope each of you is having a great semester and enjoying the arrival of spring. It finally seems to be here, bringing blooming flowers and the greening of the Oak Grove after the gray of winter. This past winter was relatively mild in Western Pennsylvania in terms of snowfall, with the exception of one notable storm. IUP even closed for a day due to snow—an incredibly rare occurrence.

I am pleased to report that application numbers for the SAHE program continue to be stronger than during the pandemic. We have a strong pool of candidates this year; however, the overall number remains lower than it was just five years ago. As a result, your support with admissions is more important than ever. We have continued to offer a virtual Visitation experience, which allows prospective students to participate at a much lower cost while also significantly reducing the resources required to deliver the program. This approach is especially important given that fewer people are available to share the work and that our financial resources remain constrained.

You can read more about the 2026 graduates by visiting the 2026 ASD Resume Project. I encourage you to review their resumes and share this information with others who are looking for great new professionals to hire.

I am wrapping up my term as the faculty liaison to IUP's Council of Trustees as IUP's Representative to the PASSHE Faculty Council. This experience has provided me with a deeper understanding of events occurring at the system level.

With the spring semester also comes conference season. This year, I attended both ASCA in Alexandria and NASPA in Kansas City and presented at both conferences. At ASCA, I offered the association's annual legislative update. At NASPA, I made several presentations, including a pre-conference workshop; a concurrent session related to my role as NASPA Historian on how NASPA has organized itself as part of the celebration of 25 years of Knowledge Communities; and a session on a new book on ghosts on campus to which I contributed a chapter. I also had the opportunity to connect with a number of SAHE alumni at both conferences.

On a more personal note, I am excited to share that Margaret is graduating this year from the University of South Carolina with a degree in public health. During her time at USC, she has worked in the admissions call center for four years, demonstrating a strong commitment to the institution and its students. After participating in Dance Marathon for several years, she went on to serve on the Executive Committee during her senior year. She also made a significant impact as a peer instructor for UNIV 101 for two years. We are incredibly proud of all that she has accomplished.

There are several ways in which you can support the SAHE program. First, please continue to encourage your best and brightest students to pursue a career in student affairs that begins at IUP. You can also assist the SAHE program through your financial contributions to the SAHE Development Fund which helps to support events such as our alumni reception at NASPA and our student awards. Donation directions appear on page 8.

I sincerely hope that this newsletter finds you well! Please continue to share your news and updates with us. We deeply appreciate your continued hard work, support, and loyalty to SAHE.



Dr. Mimi Benjamin

“The sun was warm but the wind was chill.
You know how it is with an April day.”

-Robert Frost

Frost’s line resonates with me as we’re well into April and I’m still not sure if it’s time to put away my heavy coats. As he said, you know how it is with April. At this point in April, it’s a few weeks from the end of the semester, and we have students job searching, students practicum-planning, students presentation-prepping, and at least this faculty member is steeling herself for an influx of grading. You know how it is with April.

Spring semester has been fairly typical with classes, conferences, and the rhythms of daily life at IUP. This year has been a year of new classes for me – the First Learning Year course in the fall and then teaching Student Development Theory II in the spring. I told the students that some of these theories weren’t even around when I was formally studying theory. It’s been good for me to engage with different material and make further connections between the courses I teach.

In my role on the NASPA Conference Leadership committee, this was our big year! The Kansas City conference was great and it was wonderful to see so many friends, colleagues, and alums. I had an excellent experience being on the committee, but I must admit that I was happy to have things wrap up. Following the conference, I stayed in the midwest to attend the presidential inauguration of a friend at Stephens College in Columbia, MO. Overall, it was a wonderful trip.

Outside of the classroom, Mike and I (and our niece Sophie) spent a lot of time at the KCAC watching the women’s basketball team. What a season they had! While they didn’t bring home the national championship, they landed in the #2 spot nationally for Division 2 and were amazing. We’re looking forward to next year’s season.

But first we’re looking forward to summer. For Mike, newly retired as of April 1, that entails some fishing and lawn-mowing. For me, that includes teaching the Academic Advising course during Summer I and doing fun things like gardening, reading, and visiting with family. Mike and I are also on a mission to try a bunch of new coffee shops, so let us know if you have recommendations. I hope you have a wonderful summer and get a chance to rest, vacation, or whatever it is you enjoy.

SAHE RETIREMENT UPDATE



Dr. John Mueller

Greetings SAHE community! For the first time since I've contributed to *Developments* (way back in 1999), I am writing—not from Indiana, PA—but from Glen Ellyn, IL. After 27 years in Indiana (and nearly 40 years out in the eastern part of the country), I moved back home to Illinois in late March.

It's hard to believe that this June I will have been retired from IUP for four years. I had planned to stay in Indiana for a few years, knowing I'd return to the midwest.

I enjoyed my initial retirement years in Indiana exploring bike trails in the area, tending to my yard, enjoying

relaxing meals with friends and neighbors, and doing a part-time gig at a local Ace Hardware store. Once I listed my house in early February, things moved very fast and before I knew I knew it, a truck full of my belongings was pulling away from my house of 26 years and began its journey west.

I am now in Glen Ellyn, IL—a Chicago suburb that is very close to where I grew up and is just miles from my father and my brother and sisters. I live just a few blocks from the childhood home of Linda Hall! Interestingly, as my father observed, I've left Western Pennsylvania to live on the corner of Western and Pennsylvania Avenues. This next chapter of my life gives me an opportunity to deepen the bonds I have with my siblings and my father and with my extended family and childhood friends. It also allows me to re-acquaint myself with the city of Chicago, where I was born and lived until I was six years old. I look forward to getting to know Chicago as well as I have gotten to know Philadelphia, NYC, and Pittsburgh. It helps that I am just a few blocks from a regional line train station.

I'll miss so much about Indiana! My mind is flooded with fond memories that fall into several buckets: teaching, learning, and writing at IUP, attending St. Thomas More University Parish, singing with the Pittsburgh Pride Choir and the Indiana Community Choir, practicing Triyoga, working at the local Ace Hardware in retirement, and enjoying my neighborhood and the wonderful bike trails in Indiana County and beyond.

When I take a break from all the tasks of moving (right now I'm unpacking), I allow myself to experience the many and mixed feelings I have: excitement, apprehension, sadness, curiosity, and hope. Mostly, I am feeling content and ready for what's next.

I am so grateful for my life in Indiana, PA and IUP. I treasure the friendships I made and memories that will linger long. I look forward to reading the rest of this issue of *Developments* and catching up on all the happenings in SAHE and in your lives.

SAHE ALUMNI UPDATES

Kaitlyn Kerr ('25)

Assistant Director of Testing and Assistive Technology at Drexel University

Kaitlyn joined Drexel in May 2025 as Accommodation Coordinator.

In her current role she manages testing center operations and assistive technology resources for the university. She is very proud and excited to continue her work in the field of disability resources in Philadelphia.

Casey Higgins ('24)

Area Coordinator at Worcester State University

Casey attended ACPA in Baltimore this spring. They had a wonderful time connecting with colleagues, fellow SAHE alumni, and getting professional development - it was a great reset to finish out the academic year.

Re'Onna Durham ('24)

Assistant Director of Housing in Residence and Commuter Life at Seton Hill University

Matthew Grayo ('23)

Academic Advisor and Adjunct Professor of English and General Education at Holy Family University

Matthew has also recently been accepted into the Doctoral program for Educational Leadership at Holy Family University.

Renee Raymond ('20)

Assistant Director of Student Conduct at Drexel University

Sarah Avery ('20)

Academic Advisor for Information Systems Students at Carnegie Mellon University

Sarah recently started a Joy Coaching business called "Serendipitously Well".

Last fall she also presented "Mindfulness and Metacognition: Wellbeing Strategies for Educators" at the annual NACADA conference in Las Vegas.

SAHE ALUMNI UPDATES

Zachary (Grover) Calderson ('20)

Director of Inclusive Excellence at the College of Engineering at Michigan State University

Zachary recently got married in 2025.

Anthony Nguyen ('19)

Student Life & Housing Advisor at George Brown Polytechnic

Anthony recently went on strike with the Ontario Public Service Employees Union for 5 weeks in September 2025.

Jeremy Risinger ('18)

Assistant Director of Academic and Career Success at IUP

Jeremy recently won the 2026 IUP Research Award for New Investigators

Meghan Delsite Coleman ('18)

Director of First Year Experience Programs at State University of New York at Potsdam

In this role Meghan is responsible for supporting students through transition and building community through the oversight of an FYE course, first-year peer mentoring program, New Student Orientation, and Family & Friends Weekend.

Maeve Kirby ('17)

Associate Director of Residence Life at Xavier University

Andrew Greenwald ('16)

Assistant Director of First-Year Orientation and Family Engagement at Carnegie Mellon University

CMU's First-Year Orientation received National Orientation Director Association's 2025 Innovative Orientation Award for their Orientation Quest.

This program was a web-based game to help first-year students navigate campus and campus resources.

SAHE ALUMNI UPDATES

Steven Marks ('16)

Coordinator of the Connection Center at SUNY Rockland Community College

Steven has responsibilities in coordinating the SUNY Reconnect program at SUNY Rockland Community College, which offers free associate degrees at SUNY Community Colleges for NY residents between the ages of 25-55, without a prior degree, and in high demand programs.

He also opened the first SUNY Reconnect Office at any SUNY Community College.

Lexie Elliot ('14)

Assistant Director of First-Year Orientation and Family Engagement at Carnegie Mellon University

CMU's First-Year Orientation received National Orientation Director Association's 2025 Innovative Orientation Award for their Orientation Quest.

This program was a web-based game to help first-year students navigate campus and campus resources.

Bethany Tognocchi Lyst ('13)

Director of Brand & Digital Experience at ACPA-College Student Educators International.

Casey Weaver ('07)

Special Assistant to the Provost at Georgia Southern University

Casey is also currently a Doctoral student at Georgia Southern University working on their dissertation focus being on Food Insecurity in Higher Education.

They recently published an article about Food Insecurity titled: "Navigating Hunger and Academic Success: College Students' Experiences with Food Insecurity and Campus Food Pantries".

Michael Dodge ('06)

Provost at American International College

Michael was promoted to this role in August 2025.

In this role he is responsible for both academic affairs and student life.

Rebecca (Dzara) Breuninger ('06)

Associate Registrar for Curriculum and Scheduling at Princeton University

SAHE ALUMNI UPDATES

Jennifer Frick ('01)

Director of High Impact Learning
at Carnegie Mellon University

Jennifer started a new role after working in the Career & Professional Development Center at Carnegie Mellon University for 20 years. She moved across campus to a new position within their Tepper School of Business.

In her new role she helps students connect to experiential learning opportunities such as employer site visits, study abroad, and client consulting courses.

Elizabeth Kennedy ('92)

Director of University
Advising Services and First-
Year Experience at Florida
Atlantic University

Elizabeth received the 2026
Excellence and Innovation in
Undergraduate Advising
Award at Florida Atlantic
University.

Sophie Wisniewski ('80)

Founder and President of i5
Fundraising

In spring 2026, Sophie
Wisniewski Penney is serving as
a mentor to a third IUP student
majoring in business.

She is also President of State
College Sunrise Rotary and
serves on the board of
RFHA.org, the Rotary Family
Health and Aids Prevention
Action Group, which is providing
life-saving and changing health
care in 16 countries in Sub-
Saharan Africa.

GIVING TO SAHE

The Nancy Newkerk Scholarship – Awarded to a second-year master's student whose contributions during the first year of their program demonstrated the greatest promise for the profession of student affairs. (Acct #0374)

The Hadley Outstanding Student – established to recognize outstanding 2nd year students on the basis of academic performance and professional involvement in the SAHE program. (Acct #0140)

The SAHE Development Fund – Supports the needs of the SAHE program that are not covered by funds from the University (e.g., student support for professional development activities, research support to students, Outstanding Scholar Award, Outstanding SAHE Alumni award). (Acct # 4647)

HOW TO GIVE

1. Visit www.iup.edu/giveagift and enter the amount you wish to give.
2. Click the box labeled "Click here to view other university-wide funds or to support more than one area," Click "Other" in the "Other critical needs at IUP" and click continue.
3. Enter your amount (if this is the only gift you are giving, it will be the same as when you originally entered it and will be 100% of your gift). Finally, enter the account number where it asks to specify the designation, then complete the remainder of the form.

The Foundation for IUP is a 501(c)(3) organization; gifts to the Foundation are tax deductible as per IRS regulations. The official registration and financial information of the Foundation for Indiana University of Pennsylvania may be obtained for the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. For calls which originate outside of Pennsylvania, the telephone number is 717-783-1720. Registration does not imply endorsement

ASSOCIATES FOR STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

“BUILDING COMMUNITY AND PROFESSIONAL GROWTH IN SAHE”



ASD E-Board Members, left to right: Teresa Kondas, Gabriell Sikora, Jesse Gowin

This year, Associates for Student Development emphasized building community within the Student Affairs in Higher Education program and offering meaningful professional development opportunities.

One of the primary initiatives this year was the launch of SAHE Study Buddy Sessions. These sessions invited SAHE students to come together and study using the principle of body doubling. By creating shared time for focused work, students were able to hold one another accountable and connect across cohorts. The sessions provided a simple but effective way to support academic success and will now be a new staple of ASD programming.

ASD also hosted a Departmental Budgeting Workshop with Tedd Cogar, Director of the Military and Veterans Resource Center at IUP. The session provided an overview of budgeting in student affairs, including planning, and resource allocation. This workshop offered practical insight into a skill many students will encounter in future professional roles.

ASD was proud to be in attendance at IUP's annual "Take Back the Night" event. It was here that IUP, The Haven Project, The Alice Paul House, and other organizations gathered to help spread awareness of sexual violence and abuse, and share support resources.

In addition to programming, the executive board has been working on updating the ASD logo and developing new merchandise. These efforts aim to refresh the organization's identity and increase visibility within the SAHE program. The board also celebrated 100 Days and is currently working on planning the annual ASD Banquet.

Overall, we are proud of the work we have done to foster community within the SAHE program and look forward to continuing to grow as an organization.

- Gabriell Sikora, ASD President

JEN FERRELL HONORED BY ACPA



Jen Ferrell (SAHE '05)

Jen Ferrell (SAHE '05) has been selected as a recipient of the 2026 Annuity Coeptis Senior Professional Award from ACPA–College Student Educators International. Ferrell currently serves as the associate vice president of student engagement at Keene State College in Keene, New Hampshire.

One of Ferrell's nominators wrote, "Jen is (and has been) a dynamic, committed, and generous mentor to countless undergraduate and graduate students as well as early career professionals. Whether through formal supervisory relationships or informal guidance, Jen shows up consistently for others, offering a rare blend of wisdom, candor, and care. She is a leader who empowers and elevates others." The award was presented during ACPA26 in Baltimore, March 30–April 2.

Established in 1979, the Annuity Coeptis Award recognizes senior professionals and encourages meaningful conversations across generations. Created by ACPA in honor of Philip A. Tripp, Ursula Delworth, and Cynthia Johnson, the award highlights the importance of mentorship, shared learning, and professional growth. Rooted in the phrase annuity coeptis—"He has smiled upon that which we have begun"—the award highlights the importance of shared wisdom in shaping the future of the profession. Both current SAHE faculty members as well as a number of SAHE alumni and retired faculty have previously received the Annuity Coeptis Award.

ACPA–College Student Educators International is a leading student affairs association, dedicated to advancing the field and supporting students in a lifetime of learning and discovery.

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY NAMES TRUNG NGUYEN VP FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ENGAGEMENT



Trung Nguyen (SAHE '05)

Oakland University has appointed Trung Nguyen as its new Vice President for Student Affairs and Engagement, effective Monday, July 13, 2026.

Nguyen joins Oakland with more than 20 years of leadership experience in higher education, most recently serving as Assistant Vice President for Student Engagement and Success at the University at Buffalo, the flagship campus of the State University of New York system. During his four years there, he led initiatives focused on student engagement, learning, and career preparation, while collaborating closely with academic affairs leaders to advance leadership development, experiential learning, and career readiness.

Throughout his career, Nguyen has demonstrated a strong commitment to expanding access and supporting student success. In previous roles, he managed scholarship programs aimed at improving student access and persistence and secured federal funding to grow

initiatives supporting first-generation and underrepresented students.

A first-generation college graduate, Nguyen brings both professional expertise and personal perspective to his work. He earned a Doctor of Education in Higher Education Leadership from Texas Christian University, a Master of Arts in Student Affairs in Higher Education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and a Bachelor of Arts in Public Justice from SUNY Oswego.

“We are so fortunate to welcome Dr. Nguyen to Oakland University,” said President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz. “With his strong record of leadership and deep commitment to student success, I am confident he will be an outstanding partner in fostering a sense of belonging and helping our students thrive.”

Nguyen expressed enthusiasm about joining the university and contributing to its continued growth and student-centered mission.

“I am truly honored and excited to join Oakland University at such a dynamic moment in its trajectory,” Nguyen said. “I look forward to partnering with students, faculty, and staff to build on OU’s strong foundation and to advance a vibrant, inclusive student experience that supports learning, engagement, and success.”

He emphasized that student success will remain central to his leadership approach.

“Student success is at the heart of everything I do, and I am deeply committed to fostering an environment where every student feels a sense of belonging, is actively engaged in their learning, and has access to the opportunities and support needed to achieve their goals both during and beyond their time at OU,” he said.

- Oakland University News

SAHE FACULTY AT NASPA '26



Mimi Benjamin with NASPA '26
Conference Committee

Mimi Benjamin and John Wesley Lowery, professors in the Student Affairs in Higher Education Program within IUP's Student Affairs, Student Success, and Disability Access Department, both presented at the 2026 NASPA Conference in Kansas City this March. NASPA, the world's largest student affairs professional organization, drew more than 4,300 professionals, faculty, and students to its annual conference.

Benjamin contributed to multiple aspects of the conference. She co-facilitated "Strengthening Partnerships

Between Academic and Student Affairs" with Dr. Jeannette Smith, Vice President of Student Affairs at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts; the session focused on collaboration between faculty and student affairs professionals to strengthen the student affairs pipeline. In addition, Benjamin served as a member of the 2026 Conference Leadership Committee, chairing the Faculty Initiatives and Scholarly Papers subcommittee.

Lowery, who serves as NASPA historian and chairs the History Advisory Board, co-presented a preconference workshop, "Navigating the Current Legal Climate: A Higher Education Case Law and Legislative Update," with W. Scott Lewis and Matt Gregory. He also presented in two concurrent sessions: "Commissions, Caucuses, Networks, and Knowledge Communities: The Evolution of NASPA's Work on Functional Areas and Identities," with Martha Enciso and "Ghost Stories and the Macabre on Campuses: Exploring Deeper Meanings and Purposes" with Chris Broadhurst, Amy French, and Carrie



John Wesley Lowery with Chris Broadhurst,
Amy French, and Carrie Kortegast

Kortegast. The latter presentation is based on an upcoming book, *Myths, Mysteries, and the Macabre on American Campuses*, to be published later this year.

SAHE STUDENTS AT NASPA '26

Reflections by members of our '26 cohort in attending their first NASPA conference in Kansas City, MO



'26 Cohort Members, left to right: Abubakar Wahab, Evelyn (Sika) Ekuban, Hunter Bash

Thanks to the generosity of the Ron and Peggy Lunardini fund and Katie Motycki (SAHE '04), the previous winner of the Ronald Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award, three of our second-year cohort members—Hunter Bash, Abubakar Wahab, and Evelyn “Sika” Ekuban—received some professional development funds used to attend the NASPA annual conference. The conference, held this year in Kansas City, was a great experience for all three of them and allowed them to learn more about the profession and make connections within the larger student affairs community. We have included below reflections from each of their conference experiences.

Hunter: I am beyond thankful for the professional development funds and the lower graduate student rate that made this conference accessible to me. Being able to attend at a discount helped me realize the immense value conferences truly have, and I am much more likely to attend in the future because of this experience, even if the cost is higher.

From peer mentoring leadership models, to financial literacy tools and games, to ghost stories and the impact of campus myths, I know I will draw on each of the sessions I attended to further learn from my fellow student affairs professionals. I highly recommend my peers take advantage of this opportunity in the future, and if I could give one piece of advice, it would be to take time each evening to reflect on the sessions you attend during the day. This helped me get the most out of the learning opportunity, think about what I learned, how to apply it to my practice, and identify people I met who I wanted to follow up with.



SAHE Meet-Up, left to right: Dr. Kevin Bailey, Dr. Tom Segar, Andre Richet, Hunter, Sika, Abubakar

SAHE STUDENTS AT NASPA '26

CONTINUED...

Abubakar: Attending the NASPA Annual Conference was an eye-opening experience that deepened my understanding of student affairs and the importance of fostering belonging. I was amazed by the speed and ease of networking, as professionals were open and eager to connect in meaningful ways. The experience also humbled me, as I encountered seasoned professionals who, despite their expertise, remained genuinely committed to supporting students and uplifting emerging practitioners.

I experienced a strong sense of brotherhood and community, where support was readily available, making it easy to feel a true sense of belonging. The conference strengthened my professional identity and inspired me to be more intentional, reflective, and engaged in my practice.

Sika: Attending the session “What Students Aren’t Telling Us: The Hidden Signals That Predict Crisis, Withdrawal, and Burnout” really made me pause and reflect on my assumptions about student success. One thing that stood out to me was that even students who are doing well academically can still be struggling behind the scenes, feeling exhausted, overwhelmed, and even thinking about leaving. It reminded me that GPA does not tell the full story. I also appreciated the focus on the “quiet signals” students do not always express, especially when it comes to belonging and mental health. The session reinforced how important connection is, whether through friendships, faculty, or campus involvement. I was also happy to make meaningful connections and build networks throughout the conference. Moving forward, I want to be more intentional in how I check in with students, not just focusing on their academic performance, but also on how they are truly feeling and experiencing college.



Sika, Abubakar, and Hunter pictured with Kimberley Morrow, Director of Residence Life at Austin Peay State University, and one of several wandering mascots.

NATIONAL STUDENT EMPLOYMENT WEEK

Each year, the second week of April is declared National Student Employment Week by the National Student Employment Association (NSEA). This year, the IUP National Student Employment Week event was organized by members of the second-year cohort as a part of SAHE 733- *Management of Organizational Behavior*, as is becoming an ongoing tradition. The event, held this year in Jane Leonard Hall on April 14th, was a means of appreciation for students employees as well as an opportunity for reflection on their experiences working at IUP. This included both conversations about their work experiences in a variety of offices and departments on campus (and remotely) and through the use of sticky notes to reflect on their favorite parts of working on campus. We have included some of their overall experiences, with many additional responses showing appreciation for specific coworkers and supervisors.

Sense of community w/ other student workers

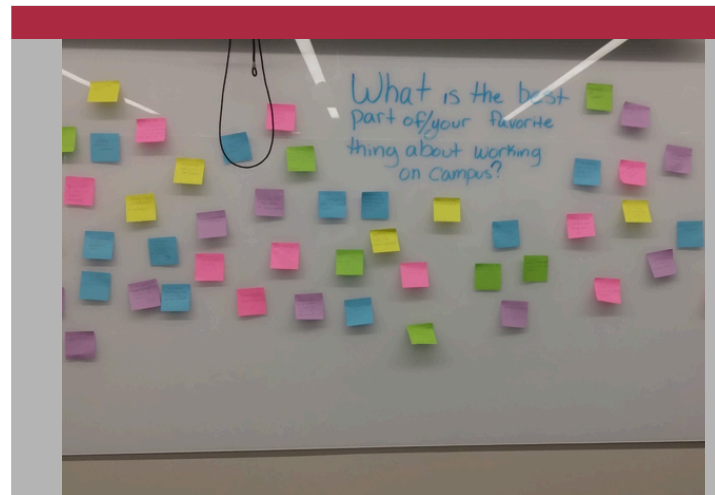
IUP Campus Rec feels like a family

I love feeling wanted and being able to help my fellow students

Being able to help students and show them new things they never knew before

The community! I relied on them during my transition to Indiana

Creating events for all students to enjoy and create a fun environment



Sticky notes provided by student employees at IUP discussing what they enjoy most about working on campus

The fun environment and the inclusivity

The flexibility with work & school, accommodating and understanding to students

It's always a positive environment, it makes me very happy!!!

Good company, motivation, positivity

My co-workers!

Getting to meet and work with others & practical experience

Being able to influence the communities we are a part of

I love working for people who are invested in my future!

The connections and friends I have made

Being a part of some cool research! #BiologyDept

Talking with my professors

SEMESTER HIGHLIGHTS

SPRING '26



SAHE Study Session



100 Days Until Graduation!



National Student Employment Week



'26 Cohort Lunch Hangout



"It's On Us" Movement

NOTE FROM THE EDITORS



Amara Bender ('27)

This is my second time working on the *Developments* semesterly newsletter. I really enjoy the ability to have an output to work creatively and to learn more about the SAHE community through creating and editing this newsletter. As I am a current first-year SAHE student and the GA for the SAHE program, I am excited to continue working on and developing future issues of *Developments*.

The time really does catch up with you in your last semester! It's been great being able to reflect on the SAHE experience and collaborate with my peers in documenting the experience. I look forward to receiving the *Developments* updates in future semesters and seeing what new contributions the next cohort make as well as how the '27 cohort develops as they move into their second year.



Cameron Horton ('26)