LIBRARY CONFERENCE CENTER CELEBRATES 25 YEARS

By Erin Goode

As you look across the IU Northwest campus with its limestone buildings, perfectly manicured lawns and unique collection of statues and sculptures, there is one building that both literally and figuratively stands out from all the rest. There is a great wealth of history and knowledge in that building and for a quarter of a century it has been a center of learning and progress for students and community members alike.

The IU Northwest’s Library Conference Center celebrated its silver anniversary in November of 2005. The official groundbreaking began on July 12, 1978 led by then IU President John Ryan and IU Northwest Chancellor Danilo Orescanin. After its completion in the fall of 1980, the three story limestone building would be the largest at IU Northwest at that time. The building architecturally was the first of its kind on campus. “The building is architecturally still one of the nicest buildings to look at,” says Interim Library Director Tim Sutherland. The building was designed by the architect firm of Cole and Associates of South Bend and Merrillville and built by Superior Construction Company of Gary, Arctic Engineering Company of East Chicago, and Hyre Electric Company of Highland.

When finished, the center became home to the Chancellor’s Office, Library Conference Center events and the library, which housed the Calumet Regional Archives and Educational Resource Center. Today, the Library Conference Center is the home to Academic Affairs, The Lake County Central Law Library, The Calumet Regional Archives, The Chancellor’s Office, The Center for Cultural Learning and Discovery, the new Non-Profit Institute at IU Northwest, GRANTS, Inc., and the library. The conference center has hosted numerous important and historic meetings since opening. Some notable attendees who have visited the conference center include Jesse Jackson, Senator Richard Lugar, Senator Adlai Stevenson III, Congressman Peter Visclosky, Governor James Thompson, various Gary mayors and many other regional dignitaries and politicians.

Since the buildings’ completion, there have been five chancellors to occupy the corner office. The first chancellor to hold office in the new Library Conference Center was Chancellor Danilo Orescanin, who served as head of IU Northwest until 1983. He was succeeded by Chancellor Peggy Gordon Elliot, 1984-1992, Interim Chancellor Dr. Lloyd A. Rowe, 1992-93, Chancellor Hilda Richards, 1993-99 and current Chancellor Bruce Bergland, who has been in the office since 1999. These chancellors have overseen many of the campuses successes and accomplishments while occupying the office.

An interesting change during the course of the last 25 years, noted by Sutherland, has been the library, which has become a hot spot for students looking to get everything done in one place. Before 1980 the library was housed in Tamarack Hall. Since the card catalog days of the 1980’s, there have been many technological advances made to the library. Inside the library of 2006, you can find That Little Café, the Modern Language Computer Lab, the Cyber Café - where you check your e-mail-, nearly half a million books and publications and a multitude of other resources and services to aid in research and learning. Our library today has a feel similar to that of Barnes and Noble.

A celebration of the library’s 25 years at IU Northwest was held on November 17, 2005. Display cases in the main lobby held pieces of the library’s past such as the groundbreaking shovel, pictures and documents that illustrated the rich history of the library that has been shared by so many over the years.

With the advancements being made in library technology and the continued hard work of the dedicated library staff, the Library Conference Center will continue to be a center for personal growth and academic excellence for years to come.
Notes of Distinction

Students Zia Khan, Kristine Feitshans and Cynthia Stanton, mentored by Vesna Kilibarda, Ph.D., chair of the department of mathematics and actuarial science, were representing IU Northwest at the Indiana College Mathematics Competition held during the Indiana section of the Mathematical Association of America spring meeting at Taylor University on March 17-18, 2006.

Subir Bandyopadhyay, Ph.D., professor of marketing, has been nominated by the university for the prestigious Brian Douglas Hiltunen Faculty Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Scholarship of Engagement. He will attend the award luncheon on April 7 at Purdue University, West Lafayette. Professor Bandyopadhyay has also been notified that his article Does Attitudinal Loyalty Influence Behavioral Loyalty? A Theoretical and Empirical Study has been accepted for publication at the Journal of Retailing and Consumer Services, a top-tier journal in the field of marketing. His co-author is Mike Martell, an undergraduate student in the School of Business and Economics.

Karen Venditti, Ph.D., accompanied five students to Indianapolis for the ISEA State Spring Representative Assembly in March. They were presented with three of five separate awards. They won Outstanding Chapter, Outstanding Senior (Brittany Gleason) and Outstanding Advisor. Venditti also received an award from the National Association of Teacher Educators in Atlanta in March for her completion of an electronic portfolio. She worked with 18 teacher educators from around the country on the Teacher Educator Standards Cohort for the past year. 14 members completed the project.

The Radiography Program at IU Northwest was recently reviewed for re-accreditation by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology. The program has received the maximum 8 year accreditation award. The on-site evaluation team found the program in complete compliance with all of the Standards for an accredited program. The next on-site evaluation is scheduled for 2013.

Denise Travis, Ph.D., division of social work, has been selected to serve as judge in the Behavioral Sciences division of the 2006 Intel International Science and Engineering Fair. The event will take place in Indianapolis in May.

April Calendar

Public Affairs Week
April 3-7
SPEA hosts its annual Public Affairs Week, featuring a presentation by Dr. Allen Hershkowitz on April 5 at 7 pm, LLC rm. 110 and a Forum on Abuse and Neglect on April 7. For more information contact Sandra Smith at x6695 or email shsmith@iun.edu.

Reading and conversation with Angela Johnson
Tuesday, April 4, 5:30-7 pm
Savannah Center Auditorium
Enjoy a reading and conversation with award-winning author Angela Johnson. A reception and book-signing will follow. All are welcome. For information contact Lacey Finchum at x6680 or email lacwilso@iun.edu.

Spring Preview Night
Wednesday, April 5, 5:30 pm
Savannah Gymnasium and Auditorium
Annual preview night for prospective students and their parents. Includes a tour of the campus, shoppers fair and presentation. For more information contact Char Connelly at x6760 or email cmconne@iun.edu.

Reading in the Region book discussion
Wednesday, April 5, 6-8 pm
Gallery for Contemporary Art- Savannah Center
The second discussion on Sarah Vowell’s The Partly Cloudy Patriot. All are welcome. Books are available in the bookstore. Contact Robin Hass Birky at x7126.

Geosciences Openhouse
Friday, April 7, 5:30-7:30 pm
Marram Hall
The Department of Geosciences will hold an open house, with this year’s theme being “Educating Scientists for Careers related to the Earth and Environment”. For more information contact Kris Huysken at x6741 or email khuysken@iun.edu.

2006 Service Awards Luncheon
Monday, April 17, 12-2 pm
Library Conference Center
Celebrating IU Northwest employees with years of service. Seating is limited. Fee is $14 per person. For information contact Rhoda Burson at x6775 or email mburson@iun.edu.

Gary Centennial Exhibit and Reception
Tuesday, April 18, 5:30-8 pm
Savannah Center
Chancellor Bergland will host a reception and various exhibits commemorating the 100th anniversary of Gary. Reception requires an RSVP. Further information will be forthcoming.

5th Annual Communication Week
April 17-20th
Various locations
Various events will take place highlighting student projects and assorted showcases. Author Dr. Kevin Howley from DePauw University will be the keynote speaker on April 20. Contact Lori Montalbano-Phelps at x7756 or email lmontal@iun.edu.
Outcome #2 of IU Northwest’s Shared Vision emphasizes the importance of providing teaching and learning experiences that will prepare our graduates for “lifelong learning, ethical practices, developing successful careers, and effective citizenship.” IU Northwest also participates in the American Democracy Project which highlights the “increasing need for deep learning about complex social issues and involvement in solving civic and social problems.” Incorporating service-learning into more courses is one way we can help our students achieve these goals. This session will be facilitated by Robin Hass Birky, Ph.D., director of the American Democracy Project, and Lou Ann Karabel, faculty liaison for service-learning. Bring your lunch and join your colleagues to discuss the role of service-learning as a way to promote civic engagement in our students.

This event is being co-sponsored by CETL and the American Democracy Project.

Improving Engagement Through a Learning Objects Approach

Wednesday, April 12 11:00 - 11:50 a.m HH 338

Presenter: Jim Flowers, Ball State University

No more overheads. No more PowerPoint. See how a “Learning Objects Approach” to instructional development can change how a teacher thinks and plans, and keep students engaged. See a procedure for creating instruction with online, reusable learning objects, and many examples.

This session is part of “2nd Wednesdays@Noon,” a virtual brownbag series about teaching with technology offered by IHETS.

Using Student Response Systems (clickers) to Engage Students

Thursday, April 20 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. LC 110

When was the last time that you asked a question in class only to find students trying to avoid eye contact with you? Student Response Systems are the latest technology tool designed to assist instructors in actively engaging students. When paired with simple classroom assessment techniques, these handheld devices, nicknamed “clickers,” can turn a silent lecture hall into a buzz of interactive learning. This session will focus on what clickers are, how using clickers can increase instructor/student communication within the classroom, and how instructors can get started using clickers on the IU Northwest campus.

The session will be facilitated by CETL staff members Jodie Reminder, M.S., instructional technology specialist, and Emily Hixon, Ph.D., instructional design specialist.

For more information or to register for any of these sessions, please visit the CETL website at http://www.iun.edu/~cetl/services/workshops.shtml

Service-Learning Course Development Fellowships Available

Service-learning can be defined as “a form of experiential education in which students engage in activities that address human and community needs together with structured opportunities intentionally designed to promote student learning and development” (Jacoby, et al., 1996, p. 5). Effectively designed service-learning opportunities can benefit students in a variety of ways including enhancing critical thinking skills; improving interpersonal skills; promoting a greater awareness of and appreciation of racial, ethnic and cultural heritage; increasing tolerance and empathy; and developing civic responsibility (Jacoby, et al., 1996). Clearly, these are goals we would like our students to achieve, and many faculty recognize the power of service-learning to enhance their students’ learning experiences.

The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) is pleased to announce the availability of Service-Learning Course Development Summer Faculty Fellowships. Up to six fellowships will be offered to support faculty as they integrate service-learning into an existing course or develop a new course that will include a service-learning component. The fellowships are available to full-time faculty and part-time faculty members who teach core courses central to a program of study. Course development work must be completed during Summer of 2006, and the course must be taught in the Fall 2006 or Spring 2007.

If you are interested in a Service-Learning Course Development Summer Faculty Fellowship, please submit a complete application (see CETL website to download application) to CETL (LC 332) by April 14, 2006 at 3:00 p.m. Recipients will be notified by May 5, 2006.

If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact Emily Hixon, coordinator of service-learning at 219-980-6642 or ehixon@iun.edu.

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Med Student Spotlight:  
**Jana Sapkar**  
*By Alisha Throckmartin*

What does a second-year medical student with a full schedule, volunteer work and frequent trips to New York City to see her fiancee do in her free time? Study, study, and study some more. If you ask Jana Sapkar, that is her schedule any given week. As a second-year medical student from Valparaiso, Jana (pronounced yaa-na) spends most of her life in the classrooms and labs of the new Medical/Professional Building, doing this semesters coursework, and waiting to hear whether she will continue her studies at IUPUI in Indianapolis, where all Indiana University medical students finish their degrees, or whether she will be accepted into a program back in New York where she lived while doing an internship and where she met her fiancee.

Having graduated from IU Bloomington with bachelor and masters degrees in biology, continuing her studies at the IU School of Medicine (IUSM)- Northwest campus, was an easy choice. “I like the problem-based learning curriculum and the school here,” said Sapkar, “I talked to Dr. Pat Bankston and some others and felt that IU Northwest was the best choice for me.” That says a lot coming from a student who graduated with a 3.8 GPA in her masters program.

While her school work has been impressive, so has her volunteer and internship experiences. Sapkar spent the summer of 2005 as an intern for the Doctors for Healthy Communities program in New York City last summer have added her lifelong desire to help people through medicine. Her attitude and work ethic have also made her a standout, earning her scholarships and praise from her professors. “Jana is an example of the kind of mature, self-starting individual that thrives in our patient-based learning curriculum at IUSM – Northwest. She selected our center, among the nine sites in Indiana to get her first two years of education, in large part because of our method that works best for mature adult learners. We are proud to have had her with us and know that she will make a great physician,” said Mary Ann Kirkish, Ph.D., director of curriculum development and assistant professor of microbiology and immunology.

Outside of school, Jana hopes to get married soon, depending on her school schedule. Her fiancee practices international law in New York, so trying to fit a wedding into two very busy schedules has proven to be quite difficult. She has her family here (she’s living in Valparaiso with her parents), so she has a strong support network behind her. No matter where she will finish her degree, it is clear that she has had a positive impact on the pre-med program at IU Northwest. “It has been great to have Jana with us for her first two years of medical school. Her background in medical research and her experience working with the poor in New York City last summer have added richness to the student discussions in our Problem Based Learning case studies,” said Dr. Pat Bankston, assistant dean and director of the Indiana University School of Medicine-Northwest and professor of anatomy and cell biology. Jana adds that she enjoys the theatre and opera. Of course, that’s only when there isn’t more studying to be done.

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**Tenth Annual Mini-Medical School Workshops Defeating Obesity**

**Presented jointly by Indiana University and Methodist Hospitals**

**Session 1: April 3**

**What and How You Eat DOES Make a Difference**

Lecturers: Methodist Hospitals Nutritionist Katherine Lipari and Chef Ray Flores.

**Session 2: April 10**

21st Century Epidemic: Obesity and Metabolic Syndrome

A heart doctor discusses obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

Lecturer: Dr. Zlatan Stepanovic, Merrillville Cardiologist

**Session 3: April 17**

**Diabetes and Its Links to Obesity**

An endocrinologist will discuss obesity as a major cause of diabetes.

**Session 4: April 24**

**Save The Children!**

Advice from a children’s doctor about the threat of childhood obesity.

Lecturer: Dr. Steve Simpson, Gary Pediatrician

The Mini Medical School sessions will be held from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. in Savannah Center.

There will be ample time for questions from the audience and complimentary healthy refreshments will be provided.

Call x6603 or x6350 to hold a position in the class or for more information.