

CRIMSON CHRONICLE

Spring 2014

Program Innovation Sparks Increased Enrollment for ELR

Graduate students are able to earn a Master of Arts in the Employment and Labor Relations degree program which is now being **offered at four IUP locations**. With the help of new technology, **students are able to video conference in** from the three branch locations of Monroeville, Northpointe, and the Dixon Center via telecommunication and also by using department issued iPads. In addition, IUP's **rolling admissions** allow for scheduling flexibility.

Over 1000 alumni have graduated from the program since its inception in 1977, which provides a wealth of **networking** opportunities. Faculty and staff work with the students one-on-one to **secure internships and job placements**. Students are also **given research opportunities** both in and out of the classroom that enable them to build their skills if they are interested in furthering their education.



*David Piper
Professor and Chairperson,
Employment and Labor Relations*

THE NEWSLETTER OF
THE SCHOOL OF GRADUATE
STUDIES AND RESEARCH

www.iup.edu/graduatestudies



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- Dual Enrollment and Early Admission to Graduate Program
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- Spring Commencement
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Important Dates:

- May 1- Deadline for May Master's and Doctoral graduates to apply for graduation.
- May 10- Commencement in the Kovalchick Convention and Athletic Complex (KCAC)

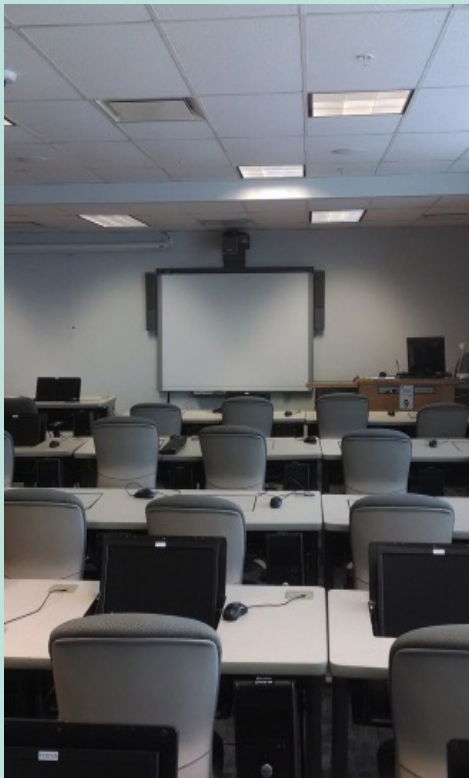
IUP Monroeville Graduate and Professional Center

IUP recently executed a new 10-year lease for the Monroeville Graduate and Professional Center. As a result, the nearly 12,000 square-foot **Center has undergone a renovation** that includes a brand-new look: New carpet and new paint for the entire Center in addition to new furniture for the student computer library and the reception/waiting area.



3 brand-new SMART Boards have been installed in classrooms for immediate instructor use.

IUP is currently pursuing **increasing Bandwidth** at the Center and **installing new videoconferencing** equipment, with the goal of supporting more innovative programming and flexibility between our campuses and sites. The projected implementation date is for the Fall 2014 term.



Left: Student Classroom

For more information about IUP Monroeville, [click here](#) or contact SGSR Assistant Dean for Administration, Paula Stossel (pstoss @ iup.edu).

Right: Student Library



Graduate Studies and Research Program Spotlight

Spring Commencement

Spring Commencement will be held on Saturday, May 10 in the Kovalchick Convention and Athletic Complex (KCAC). There will be two ceremonies:

9:00 a.m.

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, College of Fine Arts, College of Health and Human Services. All May masters and doctoral graduates are invited to attend. August 2014 master's graduates are also invited to walk in the ceremony.

1:30 p.m.

College of Education and Educational Technology, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Eberly College of Business and Information Technology. All May masters and doctoral graduates are invited to attend. August 2014 master's graduates are also invited to walk in the ceremony.

One hour prior to their ceremony, students should report to the lobby of KCAC where they will receive instruction about the processional lineup. Faculty members who are hooding doctoral or MFA graduates should also report one hour prior to the ceremony.

- Family and friends are welcome to attend the ceremony and do not need tickets in order to do so.
- **Students RSVP** for the Commencement ceremony by logging on to MyIUP. **Faculty members** who are hooding doctoral and MFA graduates **can RSVP** by emailing Hilliary Creely (hcreely@iup.edu).
- Visit www.iup.edu/commencement for more information, or contact SGSR Assistant Dean for Administration, Paula Stossel (pstoss @ iup.edu).

Attention May Graduates:

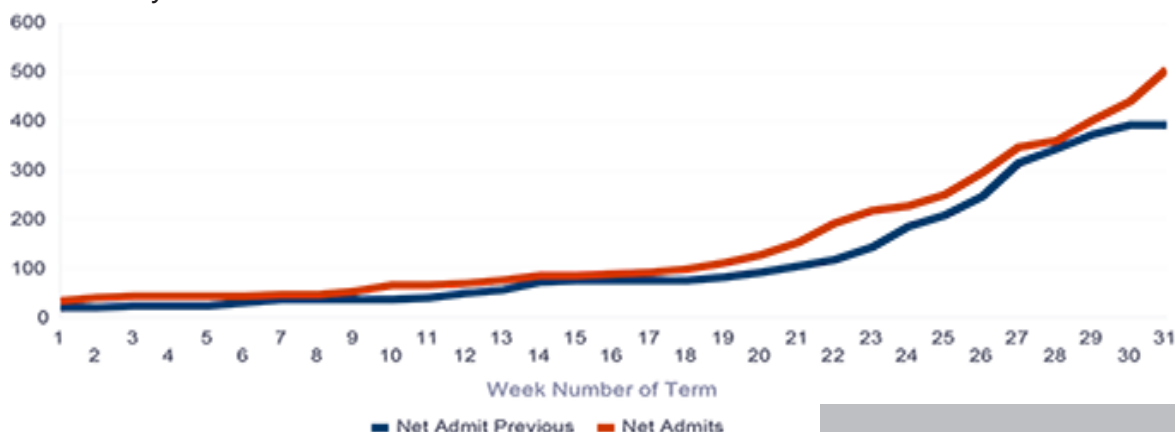
The deadline for May master's and doctoral graduates to **apply for graduation is May 1, 2014**. Log in to the secure area of **MyIUP** to apply for graduation and to confirm your diploma name and mailing address.

Paula Stossel
Assistant Dean for Administration

What is Fall 2014 Graduate Enrollment Looking Like?

Last Fall, IUP experienced declines in both undergraduate and graduate enrollment. Quite a few people all across the university have been working very hard since then to attract more high quality students to IUP. The academic college deans, assistant deans, chairs, and graduate coordinators have been working with the SGSR to estimate our fall 2014 graduate enrollment, and we thank them for their efforts!

Our official estimate is that IUP's fall 2014 graduate enrollment will be 2,258 students, or one more student than last fall. The graph below depicts how the number of graduate students that have been admitted for this fall (in red) compared with last fall (in blue). Things are looking good so far! We are **slightly ahead** of where we were last year:



Tim Mack, Dean
School of Graduate Studies and Research

Graduate Studies and Research Program Announcements

Taking Leaps in Going Paperless in the Graduate Admissions Office

In the upcoming weeks, the graduate admissions office will be taking a giant step towards a **paperless office** by taking advantage of the Banner Document Management (BDM) system recently made available to us. Once implemented, **all application documents will be scanned and stored electronically** throughout the admission process.

This will give us the opportunity to manage student records more efficiently, reduce office clutter, and also allow Graduate Coordinators to view the documents as they become available.

Eric Litzinger
Director of Graduate Admissions

Early Admission Program Policy

This program is for **highly motivated and successful IUP undergraduates** who wish to continue their studies in a graduate program at IUP. Applicants must have at least a 3.25 GPA to be considered for early admission and must have completed at least 15 credit hours in their undergraduate major. Students may apply in the semester in which they will earn their 90th credit.

Applicants will be considered according to the existing criteria of each graduate program, with the single exception that they need not have finished their undergraduate degree.

Students are allowed to earn up to 15 credits of graduate study as an undergraduate in this program.

Upon completion of their undergraduate degree, students will automatically become graduate students if they maintain a 3.0 undergraduate G.P.A., are in good academic standing as a graduate student, and fulfill any undergraduate requirements specified by the department and listed in the admissions letter.

Dual Enrollment in Graduate Programs

Students may apply and be admitted to two master's degree programs simultaneously. **Up to 50% of the credits in one degree may be shared with the other degree**, provided:

1. The courses are required or electives in both programs.
2. The courses are accepted as substitute courses by the graduate coordinator of the program.

Shari Robertson
Dean's Associate
School of Graduate Studies and Research

Research Highlights

IUP Research Institute News

The 20th Annual Research Appreciation Week was held March 31 – April 4. It was a huge success and we sincerely enjoyed taking the time to recognize and thank all of the faculty & staff who participated in a sponsored activity. **I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who had a hand in planning the week-long celebration.**

The Research Institute team has been extremely busy since the last SGSR Newsletter. Obviously, proposal submissions and award negotiations are always our TOP priorities, but there are many other tasks that run in concert with these activities that very rarely get any exposure. Some of these "behind the scenes" tasks include:

1) The Sponsored Projects Reports/GrantSense Database is being built out to include the "GPS" or Grants Processing System that will greatly enhance our reporting capabilities and provide more detailed statistical reports to deans, administrators, and other constituents. We also hope our new database lends itself to identifying more collaborations, new niche areas, and new statistical ways to tout your successes!

2) In addition to the new GPS, a subcommittee is working diligently to create an expenditures report to complement the current sponsored projects reports. An expenditures report will help manage the post-award activities of sponsored project(s). With this report, Project Directors will have a better understanding of remaining grant dollars well before the end of the project period.

3) The Research Institute Advisory Board, under the current leadership of Dr. Michelle Bruno, has had an equally robust year. As we start to wrap up the Spring 2014 semester, the Research Institute Advisory Board has created subgroups to review, analyze, and make recommendations in four different areas: Pre-Award, Post-Award, Research Clusters, and Education/Training. Each subgroup, except Education/Training, plan to survey a targeted group of researchers to identify best practices, make recommendations for improvement, and help advertise the successes of sponsored activity.

The Education/Training subgroup will be working to migrate the Research Institute's NUTS & BOLTS Series to an online platform which will allow participants to view our presentations at a time that is convenient for them. It will not, however, replace our face-to-face sessions that include finding funding opportunities, pre-award processes, budget building blocks, and post-award processes.

If you have suggestions for additional topics for our Nuts & Bolts Series, please contact Tracy Eisenhower at tracye@iup.edu. The RI team will also facilitate research-administration and grant-writing presentations to select groups of individuals or classes. Contact Tracy to discuss the details and to schedule a customized session.

Please watch for our weekly emails that include the most recent funding opportunities, information on upcoming special events, guest speakers, presentations, workshops, and other sponsored activity news. Please visit our website for more information regarding sponsored activities – GRC archives, internal IUP policies, processes, and forms, tips on grant writing, Research Institute staff contact information, and links to funding agencies.

*Tracy Eisenhower
IUP Research Institute*

Research Highlights

Online Research Ethics Training

Ethical conduct of research is important for maintaining the public trust and adhering to research requirements and best practices. IUP makes it easy for you to learn these regulations and best practices by providing training through the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI), a web-based training system used by millions of learners at academic institutions. You can **log on to CITI** anytime and the training is free for the IUP community! Through CITI, IUP offers training on:

- Responsible Conduct of Research
- Protection of Human Subjects
- Protection of Animal Subjects
- Financial Conflict of Interest
- Export Control
- Biosafety/biosecurity



Need help setting up an account or choosing which on-line learning modules to complete, visit our **Online Research Ethics Training webpage** for details or contact us at grad-research@iup.edu

*Hilliary Creely
Assistant Dean for Research*

Research Highlights

Update from the IACUC

The IUP Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) is pleased to announce that online Animal Care and Use (ACU) training is now available to the IUP community, via IUP's contract with the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI).

This training is being made available to the IUP community free of charge, in order to meet the IACUC's responsibilities in providing user training, and to enable IUP personnel to maintain the highest ethical standards in their uses of animals for teaching, research, and outreach.

ACU training is recommended for any faculty, staff, or student that utilizes vertebrate animals in their endeavors.

General ACU training courses are available for faculty researchers, student researchers, and field researchers (those working with wild animals).



In addition, a number of specialized training courses are available for individuals working with select model species or performing particular biomedical techniques involving animals. Users will receive a completion certificate for any ACU course they complete successfully.

The SGSR has made available resources that will assist IUP personnel in obtaining and completing the training. You can find out more by visiting:

<http://www.iup.edu/page.aspx?id=93408>

For more information on the online Animal Care and Use Training, please contact the Assistant Dean for Research in the SGSR, or the IUP IACUC.

IUP's IACUC can be found online at www.iup.edu/iacuc.

Questions or concerns?

Email us at [iacuc-info @ iup.edu](mailto:iacuc-info@iup.edu)

Research Highlights

Research Appreciation Week Events

- **Research Appreciation Week was a great success this year!** We started off the week with the Research Awards Luncheon, held on March 31, 2014 in the Blue Room, Sutton. The lunch celebrated faculty, staff, and scholarly work from across campus. The University President and Provost were in attendance, as well as members of the Indiana community such as our county commissioners.
- 8 Faculty members were awarded the Deans' Outstanding Researcher Award.
- 8 Faculty members were awarded with Sponsored Program Awards from the Research Institute for their excellence in research.
- 3 Doctoral students were recognized for their excellence in dissertation research subjects.



Deans' Outstanding Researcher Awards

Dr. Framarz Byramjee	Eberly College of Business & Information Technology
Dr. Jeffrey Ritchey & Dr. Nurhaya Muchtar	College of Education and Educational Technology
Mr. Sean Derry & Mr. Chris McGinnis	College of Fine Arts
Dr. Bitna Kim	College of Health and Human Services
Dr. Christian Vaccaro	College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Dr. Shundong Bi	College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Research Highlights

Research Appreciation Week Events



Sponsored Program Awards

Dr. Jeffrey Larkin	Outstanding Achievement in Research
Dr. Louis Pesci (Highway Safety Center)	Outstanding Center, Institute, or Program
Mr. Samuel Gualardo	Outstanding Achievement in Public Service
Dr. Megan Knoch	IUP Research Institute New Investigator Award
Dr. William Oblitey, Dr. Rosemary Shumba, & Dr. Jennifer Gossett	Outstanding Achievement in Curriculum & Instruction
Dr. Gregory Kenning	Graduate Dean's Award for Outstanding Commitment to Sponsored Programs

Outstanding Graduate Student Research Awards

Matthew Ferchalk	D.Ed. in Educational and School Psychology
Joanna Cogan-Ferchalk	D.Ed. in Educational and School Psychology

Research Highlights

Research Appreciation Week Events



The Ninth Annual Undergraduate Scholars Forum was held on April 1, 2014. This effort was led by the SGSR and a tri-chair faculty committee with support from the Office of the President, the College Deans, the IUP Research Institute, and countless volunteer hours from faculty and staff.

269 students presented their work and 191 faculty members participated as judges and/or student research sponsors.

Examples of the many workshops conducted during Research Appreciation week:

The **library** had a workshop on conducting research in the IUP Special Collection and Archives and another on the Tools for Research.

The **Applied Research Lab** held a workshop on how they can help assist with student and faculty research.

The **School of Graduate Studies and Research** sponsored workshops on Intellectual Property, Funding Opportunities for Graduate Students, and **Thesis/Dissertation** Formatting.

The **Research Institute** held workshops on Understanding the Agency Review Process.

Research Highlights

Fourth Annual Graduate Scholars Forum

The Fourth Annual Graduate Scholars Forum was held on April 2, 2014. This effort was led by the SGSR and a dual-chair faculty committee with support from the Office of the President, College Deans, the IUP Research Institute, and countless faculty and staff volunteers.

One hundred and five students from five colleges presented their work through research posters, juried art exhibits, and oral presentation.

- 51 students from Humanities and Social Sciences
- 4 students from Education and Educational Technology
- 2 students from Fine Arts
- 29 students from Health and Human Services
- 19 students from Natural Sciences and Mathematics

83 faculty members participated as judges and/or student research sponsors.



*Photo from Dean Correia's twitter (taken while he was on stage for the awards ceremony)

The School of Graduate Studies and Research also supports undergraduate research at the Capitol. This annual conference is an educational event which allows undergraduate students enrolled in Pennsylvania colleges and universities to showcase their research talents to the Commonwealth's key decision-makers:



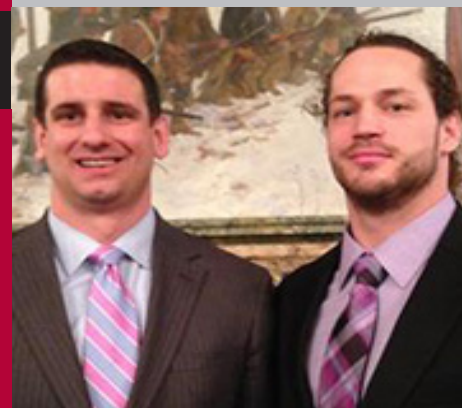
Left: Watkins discusses a poster presentation with **Senator White** at the Capitol.

Franklin Alexander, a Health and Physical Education major, presented "Slapshot Speeds and the Variables that Affect Them," accompanied by his advisor, **Richard Hsiao**.

Research at the Capitol

David Watkins, a Geoscience major, presented "Investigating the Origins of Observed Variability of Slow Slip Events with Fault Slip Simulations," accompanied by his advisor, **Steven Hovan**.

Right: Alexander poses for a picture with P.A. State Representative, **Dave Reed**.



School of Graduate Studies and Research Announcements

New Electronic RTAF Form Available to Graduate Students

The Research Topic Approval Form (RTAF) is now available as a fillable PDF that accepts electronic (Adobe) signatures. This new form will allow you, your committee members, your graduate coordinator, and your dean to sign electronically any time. [The new form and instructions are available here!](#)

If you don't have Adobe Acrobat Pro on your home computer, that's okay as it is available on all university public terminals. If you're uncomfortable with using electronic signatures or email routing, you can still print the form, hand sign it, and route it manually. We recognize that some deans may prefer to receive a paper copy, so please ask your graduate coordinator which method is preferred for your program/college.

For important RTAF deadlines and other frequently asked questions, please visit our [deadlines webpage](#) and our [FAQs webpage](#).

All completed RTAFs should be sent directly to Brenda Boal at bboal@iup.edu and for manually routed forms, please send to 120 Stright Hall. If you have any questions about the form, please contact Brenda Boal at bboal@iup.edu.

*Brenda Boal
Administrative Assistant
Thesis-Dissertation Office*

A Farewell Message from IUP's Outgoing IRB Chair, Dr. John A. "Jay" Mills

As you know, the Institutional Review Board (IRB) is a vital component of the University's research efforts. Each year, our IRB conducts nearly 500 reviews of research protocols, responds to hundreds of questions, and provides many consultative and educational activities. As we (somewhat proudly) discussed in a previous edition of the SGSR newsletter, our IRB conducts, on average, twice as many reviews and does so twice as fast compared to comparable institutions. **It has been my distinct honor and pleasure to serve with dozens of talented and committed academic colleagues and leaders over the past 26 years.** In the context of evolving external and internal regulations and practices, being a part of IUP's pursuit of the highest ideals of the Responsible Conduct of Research has been a deeply meaningful and significant part in my professional life.

Our colleagues manage to conduct and report research pertaining to a vast array of humanity. **The IRB has the unique perspective that comes with reviewing so many projects.** Given the host of considerations that are unique to different kinds of projects, I have seen many thoughtful and creative ways in which researchers conduct academically substantial investigations that respect the dignity and well-being of the people who donate their time and energy to be a participant in the research.

To read the rest of Dr. Mills' farewell message, [click here!](#)

To view our Graduate Student Accomplishments, [CLICK HERE!](#)