

Indiana State University

2004 - 2005 Administrative Annual Report

College of Arts and Sciences

Year in Review

Achievements

As you have heard, increasing public awareness of Indiana State University's accomplishments is crucial to building student enrollment, influencing policy makers, and developing a place of pre-eminence in the Midwest. What do you consider to be your department's accomplishments for the 2006-07 year that will contribute to this effort? (Please list in priority order and limit to no more than 8.)

Departmental Changes. This year, ISU's Board of Trustees approved the reorganization of the Department of Life Sciences into two separate departments, the Department of Life Sciences and the Department of Ecology and Organismal Biology. This reorganization, which had the support of the department's faculty, was made in light of new developments within the biological disciplines, Indiana's emphasis on R and D initiatives related to the life sciences, and the desire to increase funded research by ISU's biological scientists.

Centers. The ISU Board of Trustees also approved a request to change the name of the Center for Urban and Regional Studies to the Center for Urban and Environmental Change. The renamed Center, under the leadership of Professor Qihao Wang, focuses on studying the causes, effects, and responses to environmental change in cities and urban/suburban areas, particularly those in Indiana and the Midwest. This year also saw exciting developments for the Center for the Study of Health, Religion, and Spirituality, with the sponsorship of its first conference on the topic of Spirituality and Addiction (funded in part by the Fetzer Institute) and the receipt of a \$1.8 million dollar NIH grant to Psychology Professor Jean Kristeller, the Center's director. This award represents the largest NIH grant in the history of ISU.

Supporting Exceptional Excellence. Following steps taken by the Dean to reorganize the National Scholarship Office, including the development of a publicity brochure announcing scholarship opportunities, ISU saw its first recipient of a national scholarship in Crystal Baer, a graduate student in Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics who was awarded a Fulbright for further study in Chile. Three ISU students, including two students from the College of Arts and Sciences in the University Honors program, received Phi Kappa Phi study-abroad scholarships; and a graduating senior in Psychology, Alison Antes, was one of forty students nationwide to receive a Phi Kappa Phi scholarship to support her pursuit of graduate work.

International Initiatives. Departments within the College of Arts and Sciences continued to support the institution's interest in internationalization, with the signing of three new collaborative agreements between ISU and a) Shenyang Conservatory of Music; b) the Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology (Institute of Geography); and c) the University of Zagreb. In addition, faculty continued efforts to strengthen existing relations with the University of Tambov and Hassan II University-Mohammedia.

Enrollment. Enrollment in the College of Arts and Sciences held steady at the undergraduate level: the College experienced a net loss of 7 students from Fall 2003 (4,352) to Fall 2004 (4,347). From 2004-2005 there was a big gain in graduate enrollments: the Fall 2004 graduate enrollment was at 548 students, up 54 students from the year before. The College is also experiencing a growth trend in its distance enrollments: From Fall 2003 to Fall 2004 these enrollments increased by about 10 percent; and the trend continued in Spring 2005 with an increase of 18 percent compared to the same period last year. The Dean is also pleased to report that beginning in Fall 2005, ISU students based off-campus will be able to take

courses to satisfy all requirements for General Education. Development. The College of Arts and Sciences successfully surpassed its development goal of \$750,000 in April 2005, when total gifts received came to \$902,574. Of that amount, over \$625,000 came from the estate of Charlotte Ghurye, a former faculty member of the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics, who left her estate for student scholarships in that department. The number of participants in annual giving also showed an increase, with year to date figures of 882 donors as contrasted with 783 for the same time last year. Program Accreditations and External Reviews. Housed in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, ISU's interior design program received a full, six year accreditation by FIDER, the Foundation for Interior Design Education and Research. The PsyD program in Psychology also received a full, seven year, reaffirmation of its accredited status following a site visit by a team from the American Psychological Association. At the time of this writing, we are still awaiting the results of the site visit from the AAFCS for its reaffirmation of our programs in Family and Consumer Science, but we anticipate a positive outcome. In FY05, a number of programs in the College of Arts and Sciences went through external reviews, including History, Philosophy, Physics, Languages, Literatures and Linguistics, and Psychology. A task force chaired by Dean Michelfelder and aided by external consultants from the NCHC also reviewed the University Honors Program. These reviews have proven extremely helpful in identifying departmental/program strengths as well as opportunities for growth and improvement in the light of the university's strategic initiatives that will help give the program more University-wide presence and participation. Project PRE. Backed by the insight and support of Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences Ann Rider, arts and sciences faculty members have been very active on Project PRE-related task forces, the project's advisory board, and (for the first time) as PDS liaisons. A key part of Project PRE in which Arts and Sciences faculty play a major role is in faculty learning communities. The goal of these faculty learning communities is to expand the pedagogical resources that faculty have at their disposal, to infuse inquiry-based learning modules into courses that have a high percentage of pre-service teachers, and to benefit the local community. Development. The College of Arts and Sciences has met its development goal of \$750,000 by the end of April 2005, with a year to date gift total of \$902,574. A large portion of this total consisted in an estate gift from former Professor of German Charlotte Ghurye to support student scholarships in the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics. The College also saw an approximate 10% rise in the number of its donors: from 930 (year to date) in 2003-2004 to 1,033. Project PRE. Under the expert guidance of Associate Dean Ann Rider, the College of Arts and Sciences has continued to develop its participation in Project PRE and its partnership with the College of Education and the Professional Development Schools. Arts and Sciences faculty have been active on task forces, the project's advisory board, and (for the first time) serving as PDS liaisons. A particularly important aspect of College of Arts and Sciences faculty involvement in Project PRE relates to its faculty learning communities. The goal of these learning communities, developed around the theme of the quality of local life, is to expand the pedagogical resources that faculty have at their disposal, to infuse inquiry-based learning modules into courses that have a high percentage of pre-service teachers; and, of course, to benefit the local community. The exemplary partnership between the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Education at ISU has received national visibility and attention through presentations at national conferences. Diane Michelfelder, the Dean of Arts and Sciences, organized a panel on Teacher Preparation and Liberal Education: The Challenges of Integrating Academic Cultures, at the annual meeting of the American Conference of Academic Deans (held in association with the AAC and U annual meeting) in San Francisco in January 2005. She was also an invited presenter at a major forum on "High Quality Teacher Preparation: Mobilizing the Leaders of Higher Education to Accelerate and Sustain Reform of Campus-Based Teacher Programs" sponsored by the National Commission on Teaching and American's Future, held in association with the annual meeting of the AACTE this February in Washington DC.

Action Steps

Do you have any further progress you would like to report?

Not at this time. Updated data on the progress regarding increasing the percentage of first year students involved in LC's, as well as progress made in extending the LC model to upper-division courses, is available from Robert Guell, Coordinator of First-Year Programs.

Future Goals

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Please describe the progress you have made on these action steps.

Funding was not initially available to support this request. Because it is important for our students to be involved in collaborative research/creative activity opportunities, and because institutional support is critical to leveraging external support in this arena, the College resubmitted this request for funding as part of its overall FY06 budget request as one of its top ten priorities.