

## 'School' no more; 'college' it will be

School is out. College is in.

The University of Southern Indiana Board of Trustees recently approved a change in designation from "school" to "college" for the University's five academic units.

Effective July 1, the School of Nursing and Health Professions will be known as the College of Nursing and Health Professions.

**Dr. Linda Bennett**, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, said the new designation reflects the growth in the University and the complex array of programs.

### Assessing and Managing Alzheimer's Disease Using Retrogenesis Theory: Enjoying the Journey

Workshop Facilitator

#### **Dr. Martha Sparks**

*Associate professor of nursing at USI, Dr. Martha Sparks is a fellow and board member of the National Gerontological Association. She has personal and professional experience with Alzheimer's management.*

**April 28**

8 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
University Center

*Sponsored by the  
School of Nursing and  
Health Professions*

## Nursing program to add Honors sections

An extra assignment, a longer presentation, a research topic that requires more in-depth preparation—students in the University Honors Program are asking for these kinds of challenges.

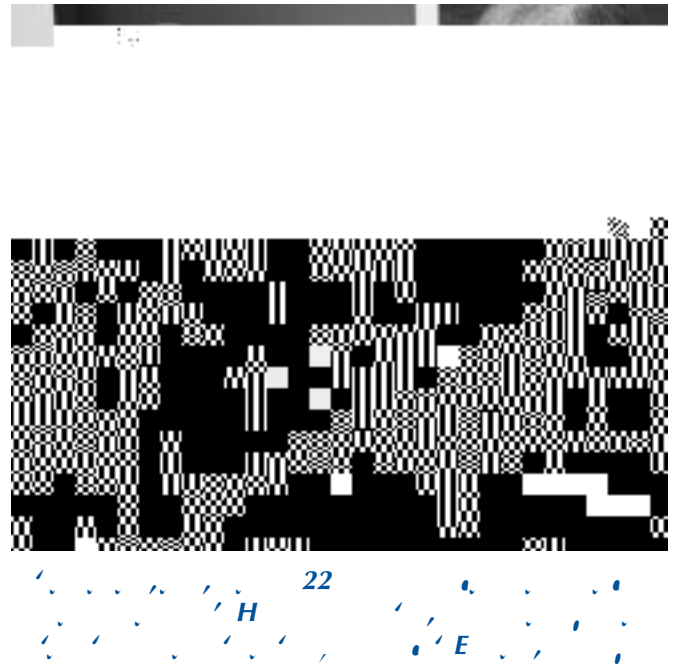
Special Honors sections of two nursing courses will be added in 2005-06 to enhance academic opportunities for the growing number of nursing students enrolling in the Honors Program.

**Kathalene Keller**, a senior nursing major, signed up right away when she was invited into the program as a freshman. "It seemed interesting," she said. "I knew I would be in class with students who really like to debate and communicate."

This year the nursing program has 22 Honors students. When the program began in 1998, nursing enrolled one Honors student.

**Cynthia S. Goodwin**, instructor in nursing and a member of the Honors Faculty Council, said the special sections will take advantage of the Honors students' high level of motivation and academic aptitude.

"It's fun to teach them," she said. "You can do some creative things with these students. The special sections also will give the Honors students an identity. We acknowledge that they have chosen a special kind of acade-



During the past year, the School of Nursing and Health Professions continued to experience growth in student enrollment and program development. Qualified applicants for the dental hygiene, undergraduate nursing, graduate nursing, radiologic technology, occupational therapy, and sonography programs exceeded the number of students who could be admitted. Primary factors that limit program enrollments are number of faculty and clinical practice sites.

This was the start-up year for the accelerated second-degree baccalaureate nursing program and the revised bachelor's program in sonography. The occupational therapy program will award its first master's degree this summer. Final approval for the offering of the new bachelor's program in nutrition is expected to be received at the April meeting of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education. Students will be admitted to this new program in the fall semester.

The May 2005 Commencement ceremonies will recognize and celebrate the degree completion of 380 nursing and health professions students. Dental assistants,

dental hygienists, nurses, occupational therapy assistants, occupational therapists, radiologic technologists, respiratory therapists, sonographers, and health service graduates will enter their respective health-care practice fields for the first time following completion of their registry and licensure exams. These new graduates in their respective fields of study have demonstrated the practice competency, critical thinking, and empathetic caring that is valued by the patients and employers of USI nursing and health professions graduates. We congratulate these graduates and welcome them as alumni of our school.

We also celebrate the excellence and achievements of our health services administration, clinical nurse specialists, acute care nurse practitioners, family nurse practitioners, nurse educators, and nurse manager/leader graduates. These graduates of our master's programs will improve health care through teaching, patient care, and leadership in health services.

In addition to congratulating the graduates, we also extend our appreciation and best wishes to

# Program Notes

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## Dental Assisting and Dental Hygiene

**Deborah Carl**, program director for dental hygiene, and **Phyllis Maddox**, assistant professor of dental hygiene, presented a program titled "An Interdisciplinary Approach to Teaching Oral Care to Oncology Patients in an Acute Care Setting" to the Ohio Valley Dental Hygienists' Association in March.

## Health Services/ Administration

**Carol Hermes**, program director in Health Services and Health Administration, will retire this spring. Hermes joined the school in 1995 as director of the Day Learning Resource Center, assumed directorship of the Health Services program in 1996, and was instrumental in the development of the graduate program in Health Administration. Before joining USI, she was vice president for patient care services at St. Mary's Medical Center in Evansville. In retirement, she looks forward to more time with her husband and grandchildren.

served as director of Health Care Quality and Education at the Tri-State Business Group on Health. She also has experience as a staff nurse and staff development coordinator.

Pigott teaches in the health professions program and has served as a clinical instructor for nursing students. She coordinates nine School of Nursing and Health Professions continuing education certificate programs with enrollees from every state and 13 countries.

A 1988 graduate of the Deaconess School of Nursing, Pigott completed a B.S.N. in 1995 and an M.S.N. in 2001 at USI. She is active in clinical practice and Omicron Phi Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau.

**Cassandra Bartelt**:

**Cassandra Bartelt**, a senior nursing student from Huntingburg, Indiana, is the recipient of the first Nursing Alumni Scholarship.

The \$500 award was presented on Honors Day in March.

Bartelt is majoring in German as well as in nursing. She is treasurer of the Association of German Students and a member of the Nursing Curriculum Committee. She is active in the USI Association of Nursing Students.

A student athlete, she participates in cross country and track and field and serves on the Student Athletic Advisory Committee (SAAC), through which she organized a service project to benefit an Easter Seals Rehabilitation Center group home. She also has

## **Program Notes**

*Continued from page 3*

## **Alumni news**

**Scott '93**, radiologic tech-

# Faculty Notes

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**Judi L. Kuric**, instructor in nursing, will be the keynote speaker June 3 for a meeting of the Association of Rehabilitation Nurses in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. Her topic is "Rehabilitation Nurses Making a Difference."



**Dr. Ann White**, assistant dean for nursing, and **Judi L. Kuric**, instructor in nursing, had a manuscript "Case Management in Nursing Education Management," published in the March/April issue of *Nursing Care Management*.



**Dr. Barbara A. Davis**, professor of nursing, was a panelist for a discussion of "Ethical Issues in Doing Multisite Research" at a general session during a meeting of the Southern Nursing Research Society. The meeting was held February 4 in Atlanta.



**Colleen Walsh**, instructor in nursing, will present an orthopaedic nursing certification exam review course in Phoenix on May 21 at the 25th Annual Congress of the National Association of Orthopaedic Nurses. She also will moderate several break-out sessions during the conference.

Walsh has written six chapters on musculoskeletal nursing for the second edition of *Practice Protocols for Acute Care Nurse Practitioners*, edited by Thomas W. Barkley and Charlene M. Myers.



Faculty members from the USI School of Nursing and Health Professions made presentations April 1 at the Nursing Research Conference sponsored by Sigma Theta Tau Lambda Sigma chapter at Indiana State University.

**Jennie Hiam**, instructor in nursing, presented research titled "Collaborative Efforts for the Provision of Health Care Services to an Incarcerated Population and Promotion of Educational Opportunities for Nursing and Health Profession Students." The data, collected by all USI students and fac-

ulty involved in clinical practice at Evansville's jail and SAFE House, was prepared for presentation by **Mayola Rowser**, gras.h PTw(ena./GS1 gsq(-1. 0..22372

## School welcomes four to faculty

The School of Nursing and Health Professions has announced the following appointments:

- **Ivan J. Barrick**, assistant professor of health services/administration, was most recently director of health-care operations improvement practice for Parente Randolph, a consulting firm in Pennsylvania. He is retired as a commander in the Naval Reserve Medial Service Corps, serving most recently as chief information officer for the U.S. Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. Barrick also has experience as director of management services at Allied Services; CIO of Carlisle Regional Medical Center in Carlisle, Pennsylvania; and senior management engineer for Geisinger System Services, also in Pennsylvania.

Barrick earned a bachelor's degree in medical technology at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a master's

in public administration from Pennsylvania State University. He is pursuing a doctorate in education.

- **Kathleen R. French**, assistant professor in the occupational therapy assistant program, was formerly director of rehabilitation at Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center in Jasper, Indiana. She earned a bachelor's in occupational therapy and a master's in health administration from Indiana University. French is a certified health-care executive of the American College of Health Care Executives and the Indiana representative to the Representative Assembly of the American Occupational Therapy Association.

- **Mellisa Hall**, instructor in nursing, was formerly a family nurse practitioner in Morgantown, Indiana. She



B'



F'



H'



earned bachelor's and master's degrees in nursing from Indiana University and is a member of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners and the Coalition of Advanced Practice Nurses of Indiana.

- **Amy Wilson**, instructor in radiologic and imaging sciences, earned an associate degree in radiologic technology and a bachelor's in medical imaging technology at Indiana University School of Medicine. She formerly worked as an ultrasound technologist at Women's Health Care PC in Evansville and a vascular sonographer at Evansville Surgical Associates.

- School of Nursing and Health Professions (where the need is greatest)
- Dental Assisting/Dental Hygiene programs
- Nursing programs
- Health Services/Administration programs
- Occupational Therapy program
- Radiologic Technology program
- Respiratory Therapy program
- Nursing Alumni Scholarship
- Other (Please specify \_\_\_\_\_)

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# News

## **Graduate nursing student teaches how PDAs enhance patient care**

**Andrew Bowman**, a USI graduate nursing student, recently taught approximately 50 faculty and students about the use of personal digital assistants (PDAs) in the medical setting.

Bowman said that PDAs allow nurses to “practice more efficient care because they have their resources and references with them in their pockets and in their hands at the point of care.”

“A nurse can quickly calculate a correct drug dose, check for interaction with other drugs the patient may be taking, and see if the patient’s medical condition might influence how a particular drug may react,” he said.

Bowman has worked in the emergency department at Home Hospital in Lafayette, Indiana, for 22 years as a paramedic and for 13 years as a registered nurse. He is pursuing a master’s degree in nursing to become an acute care nurse practitioner. A PDA-user since 1999, he gives presentations several times a year to physicians and nurses.

**Judi L. Kuric**, instructor in nursing, was faculty coordinator for the in-service session.

## **Cindy Goodwin participates as USI, New Harmony**

