



INDIANA UNIVERSITY
SOUTH BEND



2022-2023
ANNUAL REPORT

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Dear Friends,

Poet Maya Angelou once said, “Nothing can dim the light that shines from within.” As you walk through our campus, you can’t help but see the light that is being sparked in and through our amazing students, faculty, and staff.

The stories you’ll read in this annual report highlight the ways we are building a brighter future through the IU South Bend 2030 plan, which focuses on student success and opportunity, transformative research and creativity, and service to our state and beyond. From novel community partnerships and projects to new support programs for students and their families and outstanding achievements by our faculty and alumni, we are proud of the myriad ways we are influencing the lives of people on our campus and in our community.

Indiana University South Bend students are engaged in the classroom and are taking part in immersive activities that help them reach their personal and professional goals. Faculty and staff provide students with a strong foundation for a lifetime of achievement. Together, we are providing a sense of community that stretches beyond the borders of campus.

We are an engine for upward mobility, a driver in our regional economy, and a partner in building healthy communities with more than 80% of our students coming from this area and 65% staying here after graduation. Those numbers emphasize the deep impact this campus has as an intellectual, social, and economic partner for our community.

We hope you’re inspired by what you read and share in the light that is guiding us into a brighter and even more successful future.



Susan Elrod, PhD
Chancellor

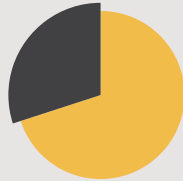
FAST FACTS

TOTAL ENROLLMENT

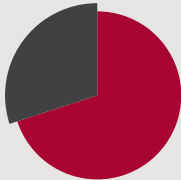
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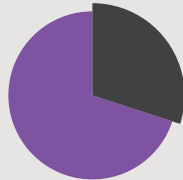
UNDERGRADUATE 87%
GRADUATE 13%



FULL TIME 70%
PART TIME 30%



TRADITIONAL AGE 72%
NON-TRADITIONAL (25+) 28%



MALES 33%
FEMALES 67%

TRANSFER STUDENTS 1,032

ETHNICITY

STUDENTS OF COLOR	34%
Hispanic/Latine	18%
African American	9%
American Indian	0.2%
Asian American	2%
Two or more races	5%
WHITE	63%

STUDENT GEOGRAPHICS

St. Joseph County	47%
Elkhart County	21%
Other Indiana Counties	20%
Michigan	4%
Other States	2%
Other Countries	5%

OTHER

First generation	40%
Pell-eligible*	39%
Honors Program students	9%
21st Century Scholars	7%

UNDERGRADUATE TUITION AND MANDATORY FEES



IN-STATE: **\$3,971/semester**



OUT-OF-STATE: **\$10,651/semester**

FINANCIAL AID*

- **\$35 million+** distributed
- **67%+** students receive scholarships or financial aid

* Data collected from 2021–22

EMPLOYMENT

TOTAL EMPLOYEES: **1,024**



Full-time faculty (248)	24%
Part-time faculty (150)	15%
Full-time staff (216)	21%

Part-time staff (54)	5%
Student workers (356)	35%

DEGREE PROGRAMS

NEARLY 100 BACHELOR'S + MASTER'S DEGREES
WITHIN FIVE SCHOOLS/COLLEGES



COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES
Sciences, humanities, social sciences



ERNESTINE M. RACLIN SCHOOL OF THE ARTS
Communication studies, fine arts, music,
theatre and dance



JUDD LEIGHTON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS
Accounting, advertising and marketing, finance,
management, decision sciences, economics



SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
Teacher education, counseling and human services,
educational leadership



VERA Z. DWYER COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
Nursing, radiology, medical laboratory sciences,
dental education, occupational and speech therapy

CAMPUS LIFE

Student Housing
Honors Program
More than 70 clubs
and organizations
Active Student
Government Association
Campus Activities Board
that hosts events such as
dances, concerts, spoken word
artists and more
Dozens of arts events each year

6 varsity NAIA sports in the
CCAC conference
Ranked in Midwest Top 50
Colleges for Social Mobility
All-Steinway School
Certified Military
Friendly™ Campus
Titans Feeding Titans
Food Pantry
Emergency Relief Fund

64%

**ALUMNI LIVE & WORK
IN OUR REGION**

**37,557 IU SOUTH BEND ALUMNI
IN ALL 50 STATES AND
56 FOREIGN COUNTRIES.**

The IU Alumni Association South Bend Region serves all
IU South Bend alumni and all IU alumni in our 8-county
service region, while staying connected to our IUAA family
of more than **760,000 graduates worldwide**

IU SOUTH BEND CENTERS

CENTER FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Focusing on the discovery and dissemination of practices and
strategies that are ecologically friendly, economically sound,
and socially responsible.

AMERICAN DEMOCRACY PROJECT

A multi-campus initiative that seeks to create an intellectual
and experiential understanding of civic engagement for
undergraduate students.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Increasing awareness of community-engaged work, fostering
campus-community partnerships, and supporting the
learning community around this work.

CIVIL RIGHTS HERITAGE CENTER

Preserving and sharing the civil rights history of South
Bend and surrounding communities, located in the Engman
Natatorium building off campus.

ELKHART CENTER

The home of graduate programs in the health sciences and
other programs serving the Elkhart community.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND LIFE-LONG LEARNING

Offers continuing education courses on campus and
customized training options for individuals and in partnership
with businesses and organizations in our community.

GENERAL FUND OPERATING BUDGET

Academic Compensation	\$18,402,705
Staff Compensation	\$8,940,310
Other Salaries & Wages	\$1,092,174
Benefits	\$10,874,453
Financial Aid	\$2,183,554
Other Operating Expenses	\$4,343,540
Utilities	\$1,861,066
Travel	\$185,414
Transfers	\$12,113,989
Total GF Operating Budget	\$59,997,205

IU South Bend develops dynamic plan for the future



IU South Bend has unveiled a new and dynamic plan that will guide the campus into the future. IU South Bend 2030 is a strategic plan that was developed in cooperation with the Campus Directions Committee, students, staff, faculty, and community members.

The plan focuses on three primary areas: Student success and opportunity, transformative research and creativity, and service to our state and beyond. IU South Bend has developed specific goals in each of these areas to keep laser-focused on the needs of our students and community.

As an important anchor institution for the region, the university has tremendous potential for growth and opportunities to make an even greater impact in our community.

See the full plan at [GO.IU.EDU/IUSB2030](https://go.iu.edu/iusb2030)





IU South Bend and Pokagon Band renew and expand institutional award program

The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians and Indiana University South Bend have renewed and expanded an institutional award program that benefits eligible Pokagon Band citizens and individuals employed by various Pokagon Band entities.

Under the terms of the agreement, IU South Bend will provide eligible Pokagon citizens and employees with institutional awards that reduce or eliminate the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition rates. Although the Pokagon Band is federally recognized in the state of Indiana, many of the tribe's citizens and employees reside in Michigan and other states.

Admitted Pokagon citizens and employees may participate in any undergraduate or graduate program, degree or non-degree, offered in any modality.



IU South Bend reduces costs, barriers to encourage more to attend college

Indiana University is working with students and high schools to make the transition to college more seamless, lowering common barriers to post-secondary education, helping high school students access college-level classes, and reducing common fees.

All IU regional campuses have eliminated the application fee, parking fees, and the per-credit-hour fee for Advance College Project courses for Indiana residents.

Both in-state and out-of-state residents using Apply IU can now do so for free. By simply applying, students are automatically considered for some scholarships, which can further reduce the cost of attending school.

For students taking dual-credit courses in Indiana high schools through the Advance College Project, IU waived the \$25 per-credit-hour fee. These dual-credit programs provide college courses to high school students, giving them both high school and college credit at the same time.

Some Advance College Project credit can count toward the Indiana College Core certificate that is now being offered by IU's regional campuses. This certificate is available to Indiana high school students who complete 30 hours of course work across core competencies.

Students who complete the certificate will not only have a head start on their general education course work for college but will also have guaranteed admission to any of IU's regional campuses.



Campus launches effort to break mental health stigma

There's a new effort on the Indiana University South Bend campus to eliminate the stigma associated with mental health.

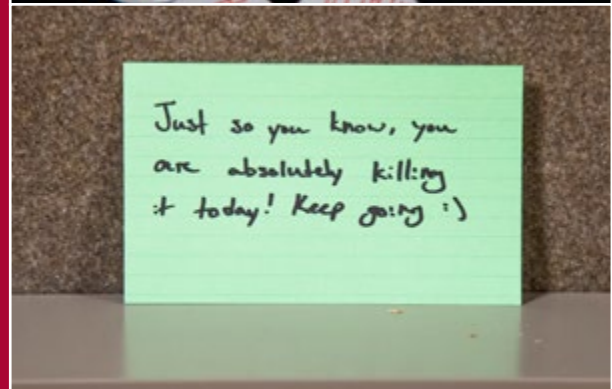
U Bring Change to Mind is a student-led initiative to connect other students with resources. They also work with the Student Counseling Center to partner with groups on campus to help build awareness.

Students work to reduce the stigma among their peers and with the administration to create policies that are more accommodating to students with mental health needs. The effort doesn't stop there, IU South Bend students are working with Adams High School in South Bend on programs that help break the stigma about mental health at the high school level.

"We are the only regional campus doing something beyond our campus. We are working to make this a bigger community program," said Kevin Griffith, associate vice chancellor for student affairs and diversity.

To help the effort, students have launched a series of "Titan Talks." Struggling students can submit anonymous stories about their mental health journey. Volunteers read those accounts during the talks. The stories are used to prompt group conversations. More than 50 people have attended each Titan Talk.

"We want students to know it's OK to ask for help and that they have safe places to ask for that help," Griffith said.



Saint Joseph Health System awards scholarships to nursing students, strengthens connections and community health

Saint Joseph Health System (SJHS) awarded nearly \$37,000 in scholarships to six nursing students from the Vera Z. Dwyer College of Health Sciences. These nurses, each of whom received a \$6,126 scholarship for their final semester in the nursing program, will commit to work for SJHS for one year to serve our local community.

“Our School of Nursing prepares students to meet the health needs of the communities they serve upon graduation. These exceptional students will provide patients at SJHS with outstanding care, and we are happy to collaborate with Saint Joseph Health System to solve the nursing workforce needs in our community,” said Dr. Jesús García-Martínez, dean of the Vera Z. Dwyer College of Health Sciences.

“The need for nurses is a challenge faced by healthcare on a national scale, but it is a challenge that can be addressed with creativity, innovation, and local initiatives like these scholarships,” said Loretta Schmidt, SJHS Chief Nursing Officer. “Today’s nursing students may work and care for their family all while taking classes. That dedication and hard work exemplify what it means to be a nurse and to be called to care.”

The Shields Endowment Fund for the Education of Professionals in Healthcare and The Foundation of Saint Joseph Health System made the scholarships possible.

Nursing student Katie Liebetrau works as an orthopedic nurse technician and said in her scholarship essay that her job “has inspired me to make a career at the bedside. Let me be a nurse who loves her job so much that she inspires other nurses to remain passionate about this special and rewarding profession.”

Congratulations to scholarship recipients Jessie Daniel, Connor Dick, Erin Dressel, Katie Liebetrau, Anna Packer, and Madison Stout.





Groups Scholars Program makes IU South Bend debut

IU South Bend brought the renowned Indiana University Groups Scholars program to campus in the summer of 2023. The program, started at IU Bloomington in 1968, is designed to increase college attendance among first-generation, underrepresented students. It provides academic, financial, and social support to help students attain a bachelor's degree.

IU South Bend's program focuses on supporting 21st Century Scholars. Students engage in an immersive summer experience while making friends and learning new skills.

The first Groups Scholars cohort at IU South Bend took a free 3-credit summer course studying the history of Black and Chicano Civil Rights Movements, while participating in a variety of community building and college preparation activities. Along with getting a jump start in college, scholars receive summer and academic year scholarships.



IU South Bend science students thrive at LSAMP conference

The Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) is a program funded by the National Science Foundation, with the goal of bolstering support for historically underrepresented students in STEM fields.

The annual statewide LSAMP conference for 2022 was themed "Celebrating Curiosity: LSAMP Scholars' Journeys Through Connection, Purpose and Change." IU South Bend's contingent made a noteworthy impression with a poster competition that demonstrates the research each student has been undertaking. Four IU South Bend students ranked among the top five statewide.

Precious-Gold Akpadija and Hiba Majeed tied for second place, and honorable mentions went to Emily Barrera and Marcus Bailey. The student research has real-life applications. Majeed's work concerns finding more efficient ways of detecting lead in water and soil.

IU South Bend's LSAMP liaisons are chemistry professors Dr. Douglas McMillen and Dr. Grace Muna. Muna said the

conference sets up options for critical networking that is essential to the development of young scientists' careers.

"It's an opportunity for the students to present their work, but it's also a chance for them to interact with other scholars who look like them," Muna says. "They also get information about graduate schools and career development."

Presenting and defending their research is vital psychological practice for their next endeavors.

"When they present their research, they gain confidence, which can be helpful when they go on to present at bigger conferences later on," Muna says.

Students might also make the acquaintances of future collaborators. Undergraduates working in small laboratories can do terrific work, but a conference allows them to connect and bond with other researchers in similar fields.



IU South Bend to increase retention and graduation rates

A five-year project now under way is designed to improve student success among at-risk students thanks to a \$2 million Strengthening Institutions Program Grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

The grant, one of the most competitive and coveted among Department of Education programs, provides federal aid to eligible institutions of higher education. The project will help the campus accomplish three goals:

- 1) Increase retention of low-income and underrepresented students
- 2) Improve student achievement in key gateway courses and eliminate achievement gaps
- 3) Increase 4- and 6-year graduation rates to be more equitable among all IU South Bend undergraduate students

IU South Bend will establish an early intervention effort to integrate academic and student services through case management, enhanced faculty interaction, and peer support.

The campus will increase success rates in math, science, and English gateway courses using tutoring, supplemental instruction, peer mentors, and collaborative learning. IU South Bend will also create an Office of Professional Engagement to increase and support workplace experiences.

IU South Bend's Roth awarded second Fulbright

Elaine Roth, professor of film studies in IU South Bend's English department, was named a Fulbright Scholar for 2022-2023. In January, she traveled to Mexico City to teach and serve as a U.S. Studies Chair at the Ibero-American University.

Roth was named a Fulbright Scholar for the first time in 2010-2011. That time, she lectured in American literature, cinema, and cultural studies at Complutense University of Madrid in Spain.

Her initial Fulbright proposal this time around involved her work on an ongoing project about women screenwriters from the silent era of films in the United States, newly expanded to include Mexican screenwriters. But during her interview with the faculty from the Ibero-American University, she mentioned a separate class she recently taught at IU South Bend on the topic of Black directors in America.

"The faculty in Mexico City really seized upon that, because they're interested in the U.S. racial justice movement," Roth said. "They ended up asking me if I would teach that class instead."

Roth received her bachelor's degree from Bryn Mawr College in 1990 and her master's from the University of Virginia in 1994, both in English. In 1999, she completed her Ph.D. in American literature



and film studies at the University of Oregon. She began teaching at IU South Bend as an assistant professor in 2001. She was promoted to associate professor in 2007 and then full professor in 2015.

"I was particularly excited about the opportunity to teach in Mexico because I have led IUSB's Oaxaca study abroad program (in 2012, 2013 and 2018), and that trip generally involves a couple of days in Mexico City, so I've been there before with students and was happy to consider coming back," Roth said.

Although Roth speaks Spanish, the classes in the U.S. Studies programs are given in English.

"These students in Mexico are majoring in U.S. Studies, so they want to take classes in English and hear lectures in English," Roth said.

Chancellor Elrod honored with YWCA award



IU South Bend Chancellor Susan Elrod and four other leaders of local colleges and universities were presented with the Woman of the Year Award from the YWCA of North Central Indiana.

For the first time in history, women are heading up five of the seven major colleges in the South Bend area: IU South Bend, Bethel University, Saint Mary's College, Ivy Tech, and Goshen College. The YWCA described them as "shining examples of higher learning while breaking down barriers in their field."

"I appreciate the YWCA for its crucial work in our community. I'm honored by this award and to be included with such amazing women leaders," said Elrod. "My message to aspiring women leaders is: Don't underestimate yourself. You can do whatever you want if you put your mind to it!"

WNDU morning anchor Tricia Sloma interviewed the chancellors and presidents to better understand what inspired them to become leaders. "A Tribute to Women" aired in a special half-hour broadcast after the event.



New faces join IU South Bend leadership team

Chancellor Susan Elrod relies on her cabinet to maintain smooth operations on IU South Bend's campus. Three new faces recently joined the team, adding to decades of experience for the university. For the first time in many years, two cabinet members are Indiana University alumni.

Rob DeCleene BS '94 is the vice chancellor of university relations and advancement. He leads campus advancement, communications, and alumni relations. His leadership advances the goals of IU South Bend with community and government relations and creates an even stronger culture of philanthropy for the campus.

DeCleene comes from an IU family, with five of the eight siblings graduating from Indiana University. He previously served as executive director of Visit South Bend Mishawaka and became executive vice president of the South Bend Regional Chamber of Commerce. He earned a certificate in Executive Management from the Mendoza College of Business at the University of Notre Dame in 2012.

As vice chancellor for administration and finance, Andy Williams, BS '99, MBA '08, will help steer IU South Bend toward a more sustainable financial future and more reliable physical infrastructure.

He graduated from Indiana University with a BS in finance from the Kelley School of Business in Bloomington. After a

two-year stint working for Northern Trust Bank in Chicago, he decided to move back home to South Bend. He went on to work at Ivy Tech Community College for 21 years, serving in various leadership positions in finance, human resources, and facilities management. While working full-time he completed his MBA at the Judd Leighton School of Business and Economics at IU South Bend.

Kory Vitangeli serves as vice chancellor for student engagement. She comes to South Bend after serving as dean of students and vice president for student and campus affairs at the University of Indianapolis, and her entire career has been centered around similar work.

Vitangeli received her B.A. in business management from Wilmington College in Wilmington, Ohio, and went on to earn her M.S. in college student personnel from Western Illinois University. Prior to her time at the University of Indianapolis, she served in student affairs roles at DePauw University and at Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kansas.

Her job description includes an extensive list of responsibilities related to student life – oversight of everything from campus housing and career services to the Titans Feeding Titans food pantry and veteran's services.



School of Education secures grant to cultivate young teachers

A new grant from the Indiana Department of Education sets up high schools and colleges as partners in the recruitment of a new generation of teachers. The APR grant is acronymically named for its core purpose: to attract, prepare, and retain high school students who have an interest in pursuing careers in education.

IU South Bend secured \$339,288 in APR funding and will partner with South Bend, Elkhart, John Glenn, Bremen and Penn-Harris-Madison schools, the Elkhart Area Career Center and the South Bend Career and Success Academy.

For two weeks in June, IU South Bend hosted high school students for a mix of summer courses and activities. The experience is both immersive and ongoing.

“This isn’t the kind of program where they come and hang out with us for a couple of weeks and then we send them back to their schools and say, ‘See you next year,’” said Dr. Hope Smith Davis, dean of the School of Education.

The students’ coursework aligns with the Advanced College Project, which provides high school students the opportunity to earn college credits by taking IU South Bend classes in a dual enrollment partnership, simultaneously fulfilling high school graduation requirements while kick-starting their collegiate careers. The grant provides money to hire a liaison at each of the partner schools helping the participants – dubbed “Titan Cadets” – through the process.

APR grants are weighted in favor of municipalities with higher numbers of students from underrepresented populations who can enter the pathway to the education profession through the partnership, with the goal of strengthening, expanding, and diversifying the educator pipeline.

City-wide African American History Landmark Tour celebrates local sites

In the fall of 2022, South Bend residents were invited to join the Indiana University South Bend Civil Rights Heritage Center (CRHC) to relaunch its African American Landmark Tour, a project that widely shares local Black history.

In 2013, CRHC launched the first version of the Landmark Tour. It identified 17 sites that tell part of the broad experiences lived by African American people in South Bend.

The relaunch event featured a first look at new signs for each tour location, a new website (aalt.iusb.edu), and a curriculum for K-12 educators to use in classes. The relaunch was supported in part by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

“It is pivotally important for us as a community to know where we have come from before we can figure out where to go together,” said CRHC Director Dr. Darryl Heller. “Teaching truthful history is necessary before we can ever hope to address any of our city’s challenges.”

CRHC Assistant Director and Curator George Garner led the tour project and is writing a print and e-book with in-depth histories of many of the sites. CRHC was born from the efforts of Indiana University South Bend students and professors, which transformed a once-segregated city swimming pool into an active learning center. It explores the civil rights struggles of the past so people can act in the present and build a better future.

Parents get support in planning student's journey to college

In April, parents of 7th and 8th grade students in South Bend received resources to support their student's journey to college. More than 30 families took part in the "Journey to College Summit."

IU South Bend partnered with the South Bend Community School Corporation to share information with parents about funding college, supporting students with disabilities, and preparing for college. The families got to tour campus and sample college classes.

College education is a path to economic and social mobility. A 2020 study found the average bachelor's degree graduate from IU South Bend will see an increase in earnings of \$21,000 each year compared to someone with a high school diploma working in Indiana.

The IU South Bend College Family Engagement Project works to increase economic and social mobility by better supporting families in helping their students plan for the future.



Consortium secures over \$1.1 million in READI funding

During the Covid-19 pandemic, IU South Bend Chancellor Susan Elrod brought higher education leaders in the region together in regular meetings to share challenges and solutions. These meetings have led to continued communication and collaboration.

When the opportunity to apply for Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI) funding from the Northern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) arose, it became clear that the region's colleges and universities could seize their strength in numbers. Together, the institutions stood a better chance of securing funding than any of the individual entities alone.

Leaders with health sciences programs came together to form the Regional Higher Education Talent Pipeline and Partnership Consortium. IU South Bend, Ivy Tech South Bend-Elkhart, Saint Mary's College, and Marian University's Ancilla College were part of this consortium. The project was approved under READI's

Talent Development category for the full amount sought: \$1,151,370.

"We were already meeting regularly, so we were able to mobilize efficiently to secure READI funding when the opportunity arose," Elrod said. "The group proposal allowed each institution to identify its core needs related to healthcare and advanced technology."

IU South Bend's portion of the funding will help continue progress on the Dwyer Healthcare Simulation Center, a high-tech simulation facility for the campus' radiography and nursing programs.

The consortium proposal also included funding for the launch of a Healthcare Talent Partnership, which is an initiative being led by IU South Bend. This partnership will bring together higher education, healthcare, K-12 schools, and economic development organizations to address the healthcare talent attraction and retention crisis in the South Bend-Elkhart Region.

Inaugural Night of the Titans honors Guillaume, alumni award winners

INDIANA UNIVERSITY SOUTH BEND CELEBRATED ITS INAUGURAL NIGHT OF THE TITANS, bestowing seven 2022 Alumni of the Year awards and the 2022 Chancellor's Medal while raising funds for student scholarships. A crowd of 250 IU South Bend supporters gathered at The Amory on September 22.

Chancellor Susan Elrod presented Dr. Alfred Guillaume Jr. the 2022 Chancellor's Medal, the highest honor given by a chancellor to an individual who shows outstanding support of IU South Bend and the community, serving as a role model for students and alumni through their integrity, leadership, and commitment.

Dr. Guillaume served as a professor of French and retired as executive vice chancellor for academic affairs in 2013. He is an engaged community leader who volunteers, serves on multiple boards, and recently spearheaded a successful private fundraising effort to purchase a bronze statue of Harriet Tubman as a gift to the city of South Bend.

Additionally, the event honored an outstanding graduate from each IU South Bend school and college with an Alumni of the Year Award, given to those alumni chosen for the impact they have on their respective communities and for the characteristics the campus strives to instill within students.

2022 ALUMNI OF THE YEAR AWARD RECIPIENTS

Andrea Bray, Ernestine M. Raclin School of the Arts

Ivy Butler, School of Education

Kristi Dunn, IU South Bend Libraries

Aja Ellington, School of Social Work

Steven Turner, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Rebecca Wooster, Vera Z. Dwyer College of Health Sciences

Rudy Yakym III, Judd Leighton School of Business and Economics

All proceeds from the event support the IU South Bend Alumni Association Scholarship Endowment Fund. Through events like Night of the Titans, together with our alumni and community supporters, IU South Bend can continue to focus on building our ability to address regional concerns, fuel our economy, and build our quality of place by using our collective talents. Such support plays a key role in helping the campus meet its mission for the betterment of north central Indiana and beyond.

Ervick publishes graphic memoir on impact of Title IX

An event 50 years ago helped create a major shift in organized sports. When Title IX was signed in 1972, the door to new dreams was opened for female athletes.

IU South Bend Associate Professor of English and Director of Creative Writing Kelcey Ervick has captured the impact in her graphic memoir *"The Keeper: Soccer, Me, and the Law That Changed Women's Lives."*

Ervick uses her experience as a soccer player to showcase the importance of Title IX to female athletes and incorporates the historical figures who helped push for equality.

The idea for the book was sparked when she was coaching her daughter's soccer team and realized there were two women coaches who had played Division 1 soccer – something she never experienced.

"I didn't know about Title IX growing up, but it completely changed my life. I didn't know that was the reason my school even had a team," Ervick said.

The book combines her love of the game, art and writing. She created the illustrations which populate the novel and said she was attracted to the form as graphic novels gained popularity in the early 2000s.

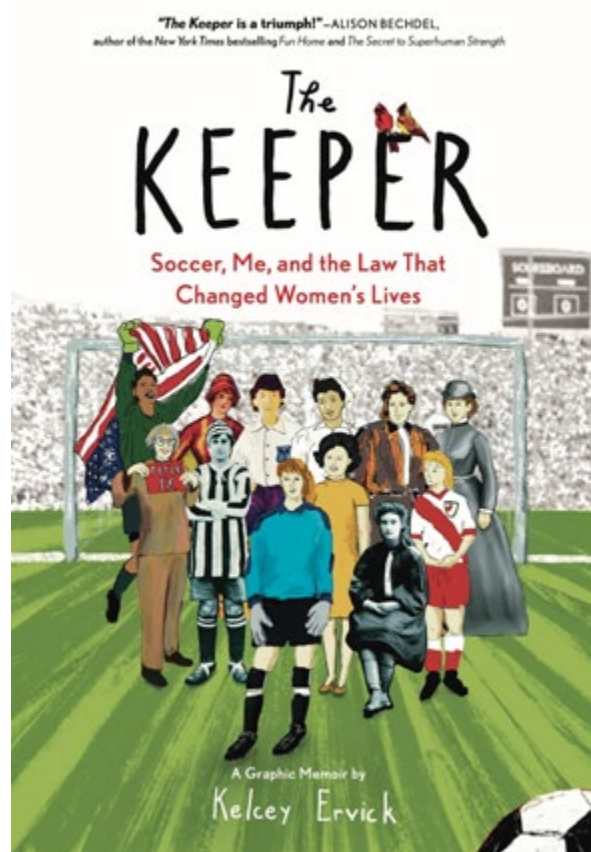
"I was fascinated by them and started drawing and writing separately. I then worked on merging them together for the book," she said.

Ervick said it's important to tell the historical stories of women who broke barriers through grassroots organizing. She hopes people become more aware of the roles they play both large and small.

"We are all part of historical moments. I didn't think about that in high school. I would like people to be tuned into their political and cultural moments. I love sharing the examples of women working together to break barriers," she said.

Ervick said she has been touched by the stories people share about how Title IX changed their lives. She speaks frequently on the topic and was invited in early 2023 to IU Bloomington's Center of Excellence for Women & Technology to deliver the plenary talk for the "Women & Technology Summit."

The Keeper has won an Ohioana Book Award and was recommended in the 2022 New York Times Book Review's Holiday Gift Guide.



“ We are all part of historical moments. I didn't think about that in high school. I would like people to be tuned into their political and cultural moments. ”

-Kelcey Ervick, Associate Professor of English and Director of Creative Writing

Basketball teams soar to new heights

The IU South Bend sports teams have achieved a good deal of success over the years. However, the basketball teams have raised the bar.

Both the men's and women's basketball teams took home Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference (CCAC) tournament titles. The last time any CCAC school took home both championships was 2009. The women's squad also did something unprecedented, becoming the first Titans team in any sport to win both the regular season and tournament championships in the same season.

Winning the CCAC tournament means advancing to the tournament of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA). Although both Titans teams were eliminated in the first round, the success is something to savor for now and to build on for the 2023-24 campaign.

Steve Bruce, coach of the women's team, was happy to welcome back four of the five starters from the '21-'22 team, but even the confident coach could not have predicted a 28-2 record, best in program history. Led by sisters Maddie and Katie Gard – both of them all-CCAC first-team honorees – the team seamlessly incorporated two new transfer players, Tia Chambers and Jazmen Watts.

The men's team required a lot of heart and determination to defeat the injury bug as well as conference rivals.

Coach Scott Cooper admires his team's toughness and salutes the players' ability to do whatever is needed. Senior guard Donyell Meredith II, along with Dejon Barney, was named first-team all-CCAC. Meredith put the team on his back in the CCAC quarterfinal match versus Saint Francis, scoring a whopping 22 points in the second half alone, fueling a massive comeback.

"Especially for a senior in his final home game, it was great to see," Cooper said. "All season long, we kept having that happen – someone would step up right when we needed it the most. At the same time, it turned my hair grey. We never knew *who* it was going to be."

The outlook for both hoops squads for the 2023-24 season is extremely promising.





Nearly 1,000 degrees conferred during 2023 commencement ceremony

Nearly 1,000 degrees were conferred to Indiana University South Bend students at the 2023 Commencement Ceremony on May 9. Indiana University President Pamela Whitten and IU South Bend Chancellor Susan Elrod presided over the event and addressed the graduates.

The student speaker was Christian Martinez, a dual degree recipient. Martinez earned his Bachelor of Arts in political science, with minors in criminal justice and mathematics. Concurrently, he achieved a Bachelor of Science in economics with a minor in business administration.

Martinez also was highly involved with American Democracy Project activities on campus, first as a student intern and later as event coordinator. He rose through the ranks of the Student Government Association, serving as senator, treasurer and finally student body president. He was also president of the Political Science Club and received the 2022 Centellas Student Leader of the Year award.

The group of graduating Titans is increasingly diverse, featuring many scholars who have taken a non-traditional path through higher education. This year's walk list

included the mother and daughter team of Eve and Genevieve Mathews. Eve deferred her own collegiate career so that she could focus on raising her three children. Genevieve took an eight-year hiatus between high school and college. Once the youngest Mathews sibling had finished high school, Eve and Genevieve made a pact to be each other's top cheerleader and counselor as they matriculated at IU South Bend together. Eve intends to pursue a career as a teacher of English as a New Language and Genevieve is deciding on a PhD program that will put her on course to become a math professor.

In another family connection, twin sisters Diana and Karla González Muñoz, who both earned bachelor's degrees in psychology from IU South Bend in 2019, have now finished graduate school together and received their degrees of Master of Science in Education. In their rare moments of free time, Diana and Karla are avid boxers, and they hope to continue to find time to get in the ring. Even more importantly, they plan to put their new degrees to use serving their local community.



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