



IUPUI

IU School of Liberal Arts

Liberal Arts @Work

News from the Dean's Office

March 18, 2019

Something to crow about

The school has had its fair share of bad news lately, including some disappointing enrollment numbers over the last few semesters. But recently we've started to get some good news, and I'd like to pause here, as I welcome you back from Spring Break, to tell you about some



of it.

This spring, we've had a record number of direct admits into our academic programs. To put this in context, in spring 2017, the school had 470 admits of all kinds (beginner, transfer, second bachelors, returning, and so on). In spring 2018, that number fell to 346. This spring, though, we've seen the number of direct admits swell to 789—and you better believe we've reached out to each and every one of these the students, welcoming them to Liberal Arts.

We've also had a record number of deposits, which is perhaps a better indication of how we're doing. For example, at this time in spring 2017, we had 91 deposits. In spring 2018, that number fell to 47. But this spring, we've more than made up for that, with 109 deposits—and counting.

Of course, admits and deposits do not equal credit hours. But they are a significant indication of where things are trending, and for

that reason, why not crow a little?

Thanks for all you're doing to make the School of Liberal Arts the wonderful place it is.

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Building the Momentum in Liberal Arts

Thanks to everyone who joined us at the **Campus Campaign Kickoff** on February 13. We had a great time celebrating the kickoff of the faculty and staff giving campaign, and a guest visit from the Chancellor made this year's celebration even more special. This might be the most successful launch to our campus campaign yet. More than 34% of our colleagues have already participated – and we're not done yet. We have until April 10 to hit our 50% participation goal.

Throughout the campus campaign, we're featuring some of our faculty and staff members who make a difference and give to the School. Read Dr. Kim White-Mills' profile below, and be sure to watch her share her story.



Kim White- Mills

Why I Give: Kim White-Mills

Dr. Kim White-Mills is a faculty member, leader, mentor, and champion for the liberal arts. After joining IUPUI in 1998, Kim knew that this vibrant, urban campus was a special place – and when she became a donor, she felt like she had found her place in the campus community.

Kim's career has been shaped by her passion for service and for teaching. She sees her philanthropy as an extension of her commitment to her students, her community, and her field. For Kim, the liberal arts are the foundation for all of higher education. Her gifts reflect both her belief in the power of the liberal arts and her students' growth and development – maximizing her impact on campus and in the world.

Join Kim in *building the momentum* and support the School of Liberal Arts today.




Obioma
Nnaemkea

Obioma Nnaemkea awarded new research grant

Dr. Obioma Nnaemeka, Chancellor's Professor of French in the Department of World Languages and Cultures was recently awarded a \$55,852 grant from IU's New Frontiers in the Arts and Humanities program.

Her project, entitled "**Militancy and Collective Action for Change in Africa (1922-2016)**" focuses on documenting the role of women as a consistent and powerful force for social change in African countries. Dr. Nnaemeka will investigate the causes and consequences of women's protests with special attention on the strategies, tactics, and practices deployed.

The culmination of the project will be the first book to collectively analyze African women's protest strategies and the outcomes of these efforts. The goal is to infuse new thinking and perspectives in women's studies and feminist scholarship.





Have you noticed the new building signage?

If you have been to the fifth floor of Cavanaugh Hall recently, you may have noticed some new signage on the bulletin boards. Marketing and Communications, in the Office of Development and External Affairs, is beginning a new project initiative to freshen up the walls of Cavanaugh with visually engaging and welcoming information, timely infographics, and fun facts about liberal arts.

The goal is to raise overall awareness about the benefits of liberal arts, improve our image as a school, and increase engagement with our students. New signs that highlight faculty

publications, alumni profiles, campus information, human resources information, social media, scholarships, and more will be up soon.

This project includes departmental and program-specific boards, so if you are interested in new signage for your bulletin boards, please email ladsign@iupui.edu for a consultation to get started.



Crystal Hill Morton, Assoc. Prof., IU School of Education, Clark Simons, Assoc. Prof, IU School of Medicine, Charmayne Champion-Shaw, Lecturer and Director of American Indian Programs, IU School of Liberal Arts, Chancellor Nasser Paydar

Charli Champion-Shaw wins Excellence in Diversity Award

Three well-deserving members of the IUPUI community were honored with Joseph T. Taylor Excellence in Diversity Awards during last month's Joseph T. Taylor Symposium. Among them was our very own **Charmayne "Charli" Champion-Shaw**, lecturer and director of American Indian Programs and Native American & Indigenous Studies. This award credits the dedication and commitment in recruiting and retaining African American and Hispanic faculty, staff, and students at IUPUI.

"Thank you sincerely. I am humbled when I consider the legacy of Dr. Joseph T. Taylor and the dedicated and passionate people who have received these awards over the past decades, many of whom I am lucky to count as mentors," said Champion-Shaw during the symposium luncheon presentation.

This award also honors Joseph Taylor's continued legacy of building a diverse IUPUI community.

Save the Date

Sat., April 20, 2019

A Celebration of Scholarship - 2019

Mark your calendar! -The date is set to celebrate our students and scholarship donors. The 2019 Celebration of Scholarship event will be held on Saturday, April 20 in the IUPUI Campus Center, Room 450.

Faculty and staff who plan to attend the event are asked to **RSVP by April 7.**

Event Schedule:

2:15 p.m. Recipient registration

2:30 p.m. General registration and reception

3:00 p.m. Program

FULFILLING *the* PROMISE

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