



From Dibie's Desk

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Greetings! The School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University Kokomo has had a busy year. I would like to thank our faculty, secretary, student advisor, students, and especially our north central Indiana community Advisory Board for their assistance in helping me to settle in as the new assistant dean of SPEA.

Let me introduce myself to those who do not already know me. I hold a doctorate from Western Michigan University with specialization in Public Policy and Administration. Over the past two decades I have been a gentleman scholar with many accomplishments as well as decorated honors for my achievements.

I have been the recipient of the award of Distinguished Teacher of the Year while at Southern Illinois University Carbondale and all University Research and Creative Scholar while at Western Michigan University. I am also the author of four books, monographs, several chapters in books, and more than 35 research articles in refereed journals. I have reviewed articles for several national and international journals of public administration, and presented more than 60 academic papers at national and international conferences.

I am currently writing a book titled *Comparative Perspective of Civil Society*. This book serves as a basis for understanding developmental policy and the role of civil society groups or organizations in community, national, and global economic and political development.



I am a listener, a visionary, and someone with a passion to share with every body on campus and the community and neighboring educational institutions

My first priority at IU Kokomo has been to focus on developing a shared governance structure in the SPEA program that will engage all interested parties in sharing responsibility for the success of the program and the university, as well as reflect the values of a democratic society.

Another area of importance to me is assessment. I believe that we need to consistently and systematically assess the extent to which our SPEA students are developing the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that we have built into our curriculum so that we can be confident we are meeting our mission of integrating the intellectual, ethical and social development of our students. The primary emphasis of the SPEA program should be that of engaging students with an understanding and respect for the normative, ethical, and political environment within which American public

administration is conducted. SPEA also helps students to develop the ability to apply sound reasoning (critical thinking) to viable solutions to problems within the public and nonprofit environment."

I will also want to incorporate more technology into the teaching of SPEA courses, learning,

communicating, and problem solving.

I would like IU Kokomo faculty, staff, and students to know that I am a "people person" and open-minded. I am a listener, a visionary, and someone with a passion to share with everybody on campus, in the community, and at neighboring educational institutions. I love to share my intellectual pursuits, culture, and life experiences growing up in West Africa and England. I also enjoy good spicy African, Asian, soul, Caribbean, Chinese, and Mexican dishes, and love traveling, listening to music, reading, and surfing the Internet.

I am already working with SPEA faculty and staff to steer the program toward a new image that will truly represent who we are and what we do best by making the program visible on campus, in the community, and in the state.

New Certificate in Homeland Security and Emergency Management

The Certificate in Homeland Security and Emergency Management offers students an in-depth understanding of the issues and concerns surrounding homeland security and emergency management. The certificate also provides students with practical solutions in the management of natural and manmade threats and emergency events. Upon completion of the certificate program, students will be better equipped to lead their agency, department, organization, company, and community in preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation associated with natural and manmade disasters.

Students will be required to complete five courses (15 credit hours) before being awarded the Certificate in Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Courses are eight weeks in length and offered by the School of Public and

Environmental Affairs through the ACCELerated Evening College in the hybrid format, meaning 50 percent of weekly instruction will be face-to-face and 50 percent via the internet.

Students who are interested in pursuing the SPEA Certificate in Homeland Security and Emergency Management must demonstrate competence in W131 or have taken American Criminal Justice (J101) and Introduction of Public Affairs (V170). Students seeking a waiver for these courses must have either completed similar courses before applying to the program or have several years' experience working in a law enforcement environment or other public sector institution. Waivers for these courses will be granted only by the SPEA assistant dean.

SPEA Conducts Leadership Workshop

SPEA at IU Kokomo conducted a leadership workshop for 35 officers of the Howard County Sheriff's Department and the



Kokomo Police Department (KPD) this past November at the Kokomo City Hall. Featured guest speakers were Dr. Craig Harzer, director of the IU Executive Education Program at IUPUI, and Dr. Johnston Njoku, associate professor of folk studies and anthropology at Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green.

Local presenters included IU Kokomo's Professor of Public Affairs and SPEA Assistant Dean Robert Dibie, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Public Affairs Karl Besel, Ph.D., and SPEA Adjunct Lecturer and retired KPD Chief Thomas DiNardo. DiNardo said that officers were pleased that SPEA would invest in their police and sheriff departments. They were very appreciative of the concise and

valuable knowledge they gained from the leadership workshop.

Make a Difference!

Yes, I want to make a difference in the quality of SPEA education at IU Kokomo!

- SPEA Scholarship Fund
- SPEA Unrestricted

My gift of \$ _____ is enclosed.

Make check payable to IU Foundation and be sure to note SPEA on the memo line.

Matching Gift Information

Company Name _____

Mail to: Indiana University Kokomo, Office of External Relations, P.O. Box 9003
Kokomo, IN 46904-9003

Cook Excels at Grant Writing

Debbie Cook, a current student with SPEA's Graduate Certificate Program at Indiana University Kokomo, is already an extremely successful grant writer for the City of Kokomo. Within her current position as Community Specialist for the City of Kokomo, she has secured grants through a variety of state and federal sources totaling almost \$2.5 million. One of her latest successes was landing an Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) grant for the Kokomo Fire Department in the amount of \$16,189. Although Debbie was already a seasoned fundraiser before she took the Proposal Development and Grants Administration class through SPEA's Graduate Certificate Program, she still states, "Much of what I learned from this class was applied to writing this [grant]. The AFG grants are going to require more of this sort of analysis (covered within the course), and I learned much from this class."

The Proposal Development and Grants Administration class is going to be offered in the fall as a hybrid class. (Half of the class will be over the Internet; the other half within a traditional classroom setting.) The class covers all the basics for crafting a solid funding proposal, including how to set clear and objective outcome goals, and develop evaluation plans. The course also covers how proposals can be enhanced through the use of systematic data collection for pre- and post-test research designs, and other social science research techniques. "Students who have never written funding proposals before, in addition to students such as Debbie that are already experienced grant writers, will benefit from the individualized, hands-on nature of this class," said Assistant Professor of Public Affairs Karl Besel, Ph.D.

Campus SPEA seeks approval of new degree

IU Kokomo SPEA is seeking approval for a new Master of Public Management (M.P.M.) degree from the Indiana Commission of Higher Education. This request is consistent with the university's mission to offer a broad spectrum of high quality undergraduate, graduate, and continuing education programs that meet regional needs; support excellence in teaching and learning; advance and share knowledge through research and creative endeavor; and work with the community to develop intellectual, cultural, economic, and human resources. The objective of the proposed M.P.M. is to enhance the administrative and evaluative skills of managerial practitioners with substantial professional experience in our service area and to advance the commitment of SPEA to public service and regional responsiveness.

The addition of the M.P.M. will serve clearly identified interests of mid-career practitioners as well as the governmental, nonprofit, and business sectors in north central Indiana. Students must complete 36 credit hours to earn the degree.

The M.P.M. degree is for individuals seeking positions of leadership within governmental agencies, non profit organizations, health care administration, and other related public sector professions. It is expected that students seeking the M.P.M. degree will already have significant professional experience. Given the degree's emphasis on human service management, technical skills, and techniques of management in the public sector, policy analysis, and evaluative skills, it should also have appeal to those interested in attending law school.

The M.P.M. degree will also appeal to those interested in a management career in the criminal justice arena who would like a greater emphasis in public leadership/ public policy than is available in the M.S. in Criminal Justice. This is especially true for those who aspire to a senior supervisory or management position. The new M.P.M. degree has four areas of specialization: Public Administration and Policy Analysis, Criminal Justice Administration, Public Health Administration, and Management of Nonprofit Organizations.

Congratulations 2006 SPEA Scholarship Winners!

Cody Eytchison, B.S. in Criminal Justice
Ashlin Garber, B.S. in Criminal Justice

SPEA Public Service Award Winners Honored

Indiana University Kokomo School of Public and Environmental Affairs Advisory Board recently presented four diligent north central Indiana community leaders with the 2006 Public Service Awards.

The winners were honored during the inaugural SPEA Public Service Awards luncheon held April 27 in the Kelley Student Center.

The recipients of the Public Service Award are Robert P. Messey of Howard County; Phillip V. Nichols of Tipton County; Judge Julian L. Ridlen of Cass County; and James R. Walker of Miami County. District 23 State Representative William C. Friend delivered the keynote address on public service during the luncheon. SPEA Assistant Dean Robert Dible

said the public service award winners all employed the leadership mentality and processes taught in SPEA. "By honoring their action, we encourage our students—the leaders of this



SPEA Advisory Board chair Greg Aaron, second from left, and Assistant Dean Robert Dible, Ph.D., far left, pose with Public Service Award recipients, left to right, Philip Nichols, Robert Massey, Julian Ridlen, and James Walker.

region—and all citizens to use their abilities in greater civic engagement." Dible said. He expressed his thanks to the SPEA Advisory Board for their help in coordinating the award nominations, scholarship donations, and luncheon.

SPEA Announces Advisory Board



The School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA) recently appointed Matt McKillip, Mayor, City of Kokomo and Jim Walker, Mayor, City of Peru to its newly constituted Advisory Board. Other prominent practitioners appointed into the board include:

- Gregory Aaron, President, Kokomo Howard County Development Corporation
- Thomas Cook, Vice President of Finance, Howard Regional Health System
- Thomas Edington, Assistant Chief, Kokomo Police Department
- Randy Hainlen, Attorney at Law
- Richard K. Hamilton, President, Kokomo/Howard County Chamber of Commerce
- Michael Harlowe, President and CEO, Tipton County Memorial Hospital
- Radcliffe Jones, M.D.
- William Keir, Executive Director, Tipton County Economic Development Corporation
- Skip Kuker, President, Logansport/Cass County Economic Development Corporation

- Robert Lee, D.D., Senior Pastor, Second Baptist Church of Kokomo
- Mona Meyers, Circuit Court Clerk, Howard County
- Todd Moser, Director, St. Joseph Foundation
- Steve Owen, CEO, United Way of Howard County
- Michael Peters, Engineer,

- Delphi Electronics & Safety
- Russell Ricks, Chief, Kokomo Police Department
- Annette Russell, President and CEO, Security Federal Savings Bank
- Marshall Talbert, Sheriff, Howard County
- James Tidd, Executive Director, Miami County Redevelopment Commission
- Gordon Tocco, Chief, Tipton Police Department

Dr. Dible says the major responsibilities of the Advisory Board include advising him and the SPEA faculty on how the school, through its outreach and academic programs, may contribute to its constituent communities and participate significantly in SPEA's fundraising activities. Such assistance may include participating on committees; identifying and cultivating individuals, corporations or foundations; soliciting major gifts; or securing special underwriting or in-kind support for departmental students and programs.

CJA benefits campus and community

The Criminal Justice Association (CJA) has been active on campus, in the community, and in the academic arena this year.

CJA members participated in essay contests by writing on critical issues in criminal justice today. Michelle Harris and Rick Grumpp wrote the winning essays. They were awarded a trip to the American Society of Criminology's conference in Toronto, Canada, last November. Both Michelle and Rick were able to attend many panel discussions and presentations on a variety of topics including domestic violence, gun control, and juvenile crime. They shared their conference experiences with other CJA members and criminal justice students at IU Kokomo by making presentations to two criminal justice classes and to fellow members of CJA.

A second contest was held in spring 2006. Christina Scheungrab was awarded a trip to the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences conference in Baltimore, Md. in March. Christina also shared her conference experiences at a CJA meeting.

In April, the Criminal Justice Association took part in a campus and community-wide campaign called "Take Back the Night" to raise awareness of violence against women and children. The event raised funds for a battered women's shelter in the Kokomo area.

CJA has taken tours of several prisons in the region and has toured the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy in Plainfield, Ind. The group also participated in an educational program at the Indiana State Forensics Lab in April.

The Criminal Justice Association continues to be an important part of the education of SPEA students by providing them with the opportunity to promote awareness of criminal justice issues and to provide aid to surrounding communities in criminal justice matters. CJA also offers students a chance to engage in the "real world" of criminal justice by serving the community and taking advantage of opportunities to see real criminal justice in action.

SPEA Faculty Research



Assistant Professor **Kelly Brown, Ph.D.**, recently presented the following research papers: "Apples and Oranges: Death Row v. General Population," at the Midwestern Criminal Justice Association's annual conference in Chicago, Ill., October 2005; "Comparing Drinking and Drug Use Across College Majors" (co-author, Kevin Gray), at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences conference in March.

Assistant Professor **Karl Besel, Ph.D.**, recently presented the following research papers: "The Changing Role of the Catholic Church in Irish Civil Society," at the Indiana University Kokomo, Honors Program Public Lectures Forum, *Between the Family and the State: International Perspectives on Civil Society*, April 4; "Economic Development Strategies of Small and Mid-Sized Cities," at the Urban



Affairs Association's 36th Annual Conference, Montreal, Canada, April 19–22, (with Muthusami Kumaran, Assistant Professor, Public Administration Program, University of Hawaii-Manoa); "The Changing Role of the Catholic Church and Catholic NGOs," at the Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, Ill., April 20–23, (with **Dr. Todd Bradley**, IU Kokomo).

Assistant Dean and Professor **Robert Dibie, Ph.D.**, recently presented the following papers "The Dynamics and Nature of Civil Society in Sub-Saharan Africa," at the Indiana University Kokomo, Honors Program Public Lectures Forum, April 4; "Globalization and Comparative Research Methods," at the University of Technology Kingston, Jamaica, March 14; "Towards Sustainable Development in Africa: NGOs and Strategic Partnership for Change," at the 7th Southern Interdisciplinary Conference on African Studies in Frankfort, Ky., March 30 to April 1; "NGOs, Public Bureaucracy and Development in Africa," at the 37th National Conference of Black Political Scientists, Atlanta, Ga., March 22–26.

