Greetings, and Welcome to the 2016 Community Semester!

One of the hallmark events of the year for the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) is the Community Semester. This year marks the 4th consecutive year that the CAS has held its 15-week sequence of lectures, panel discussions, concerts, art exhibitions, and other events that bring the content from the academic disciplines within Indiana State University’s largest college to the citizens of the greater Wabash Valley. This year’s theme, “From Theory to Practice,” highlights the importance of translating the “theory” that supports the fundamental disciplines in the CAS to issues surrounding everyday life.

The events that are part of this year’s Community Semester are as different as the departments within the college. For example, from the arts, we have concerts and an art exhibit. From the humanities, we have a panel on the media. From the sciences, we have our “Night at the Museum” opening night celebration, plus other provocative events. From the social sciences, we have a compelling lecture on mental illness from a New York Times best-selling author. There are a host of other events as well.

Our Closing Event promises to be interesting and exciting: four prominent faculty members within the college will have filmed a 15 minute compelling talk on a subject matter that you should enjoy. We will show these talks to a live audience, then have a period of discussion following the talks. We will have Brad Venable from the Department of Art and Design; Catherine Steding from the Department of Biology; Mary Kahl from the Department of Communication; and Isaac Land from the Department of History. I promise these talks will be amazing, and the discussion that follows should be eye-opening!

I hope you will enjoy these events. One of the most important purposes of the Community Semester is to bridge the gap between the “ivory tower” of the university and connect it with the community.

All my best!

John Murray, Dean

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Follow us on Facebook—www.facebook.com/IndianaStateCommunitySemester
Find us on the Web—https://www.indstate.edu/cas/dean/community-semester-2016
Opening Event: “Night at the Museum”

January 20, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Science Building

Please join us for a kickoff celebration of the College of Arts and Sciences and our exciting program of events. Did you know that the hallways and laboratories of the Science Building come alive at night? This family-friendly open house will feature hands-on activities and something for all ages and . . . mystery guests in costume! “Night at the Museum” is co-sponsored by the Vigo County Public Library. Participants include: Department of Biology, Department of Chemistry and Physics, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Science Education, the Center for Genomic Advocacy, and the Center for Bat Research, Outreach, and Conservation.

open source: an art exhibition

January 12-February 19
University Art Gallery

A exhibition featuring contemporary artists who utilize text in their practice, including Buzz Spector, Mark Booth, Chris Walla, Lee Marchalonis, Katie Hargrave, and Brett Hunter.

Reception—January 14, 4:00-6:00 p.m.
Artist Talks—February 18, 5:00 p.m.

University Symphony Orchestra with Concert Choir

Erik Rohde and Scott Buchanan (School of Music), conductors

February 4, 7:30 p.m.
Tirey Hall, Tilson Music Hall

The concert will include works by Bach and Mendelssohn. Come early for a pre-concert talk, “From Theory to Practice” from 6:30-7:00 p.m.
Fun Science Afternoon

Center for Science Education: The Science Educators of Tomorrow (SET), Eulsun Seung, and Garry Patterson

February 16, 4:15 p.m.
Terre Haute Boys and Girls Club, 924 North 13th St.

A community engagement activity for the Science Education student organization (SET) and the Science Education faculty that support collaboration with the Vigo County School Corporation (VCSC) and the Terre Haute community. The SET members and the two faculty members will present various hands-on science activities for children. The Boys and Girls Club is a non-profit organization that offers educational and recreational activities for the youth of Terre Haute.

From Concept to Stage: Reimagining Robin Hood in Story and Song

February 21, 2:30-4:30 p.m.
Maple Avenue United Methodist Church, 1203 Maple Avenue

Have you ever wondered how writers develop an idea into the script for a play, musical, or motion picture; or considered what it takes to get from a script and a score to a staged production?

This program will present scenes and songs from a musical comedy under rehearsal for a premiere in Terre Haute in early March. In between the musical numbers and excerpts from the show, the cast and crew, along with Professor of Theater Arthur Feinsod and the shows playwright and composer, Professor of Psychology Tom Johnson, will provide short descriptions of the origin of the idea for the show, how early versions were created and why and how they were revised, as well as what the cast and crew go through in preparing for opening night. This entertaining and educational program will have something for all ages.
Women’s Studies Month

A week of events from February 29-March 4
Cunningham Memorial Library

Women’s History Month has been observed in the United States since the 1980s, when Congress and two Presidents designated March as Women’s History Month. Women’s History Month celebrates the complexities faced by women in the past and the accomplishments and impact women have had in their families, communities and nations. Here at ISU, we will have a colloquium of events from Events will include films, guest speakers, discussions and other activities. Daytime sessions will match the ISU class schedule. Programs will be available in mid-February. The Women’s History Month Colloquium is organized by Gender Studies in the Department of Multidisciplinary Studies and co-sponsored by the Department of History and African and African American Studies, the Center for Community Engagement, the American Democracy Project, the Cunningham Memorial Library and other generous sponsors.

Health Scares in the Media: “Everything Can Kill You, So Tune in at 11”

Catherine Steding (Department of Biology)

March 23, 1:30-3:00 p.m.
Westminster Village, 1120 Davis Drive

In the age of Twitter, Facebook, and social media all vying for your attention, the news has become even more sensationalized and focused on catching your eye. Learning to tell the difference between fact and perception is essential to understanding “risks” and maintaining health. This interactive talk is designed to help you navigate these difficult topics and find useful information to be more informed about your health and safety.
CRAZY: A Father’s Journey into our Broken Mental Health System

Pete Earley (New York Times bestselling author and journalist)

April 5, 5:00-6:30 p.m.
Human Memorial Student Union, Dede I

Pete Earley is a New York Times bestselling author and journalist, formerly at the Washington Post. He’s written 13 books, including Crazy: A Father’s Search Through America’s Mental Health Madness. In Crazy, Pete Earley describes his son’s development of mental illness, the challenges of finding treatment, and his son’s arrest and subsequent involvement with the criminal justice system. Earley will discuss his personal experiences with his son as well as his nine months examining the Miami Dade Detention Center, where he learned that the mentally ill often get caught in a revolving door in jails. He’ll also discuss how some communities are successfully implementing programs to divert individuals out of the criminal justice system and into treatment. Pete Earley is a member of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and routinely delivers speeches about the need for mental health reform.

Mediated Politics at Mid-Decade: Campaigns, Coverage, and Controversy

Dr. Lori Henson (Assistant Professor of Journalism, Indiana State University): “Wing Nuts and Bleeding Hearts: Polarization in Political News”
Michelle Johnson (News Manager, WFYI-FM): “Beyond the Horse Race: Public Engagement and Public Media Coverage of Politics”
Dr. Philip Glende (Director of Student Media, Indiana State University): “When All Else Fails, Blame the Media”
Mr. Max Jones (Editor, Tribune-Star, Terre Haute): “Covering Politics in the Wabash Valley”
Dr. Mary L. Kahl (Professor and Chair of Communication, Indiana State University): “Run Like a Girl, Debate Like a Girl: Media Treatment of Female Debaters”

A panel discussion in April: date, time, and venue TBA.
 Closing Event: “CAS Talks”

Catherine Steding (Department of Biology): Health Scares in the Media
Brad Venable (Department of Art): Night of Broken Glass
Mary Kahl (Department of Communication): How to Watch a Presidential Debate
Isaac Land (Department of History): What is the Opposite of Genocide?

April 13, 7:00-9:00 p.m.
University Hall

In the spirit of TED talks, which make inspirational stories and new thinking accessible to a wider public via the internet, the College of Arts and Sciences offers four short filmed talks by current faculty. This event marks a new initiative in the Community Semester, in which content will exist both as a live event and as video clips hosted by the CAS website.

A screening of the films will be followed by a live question and answer session with the speakers and a reception.

 Earth Day 2016

April 20

Earth Day at ISU began in 2009 as a speaker series in the Biology department and has expanded each year to encompass more aspects of sustainability. Today, Earth Day is a day-long celebration open to both campus and the community. Earth Day 2016 will be the biggest celebration yet, including a rock climbing wall and outdoor games, live entertainment, more than 50 local businesses and organizations offering educational activities about sustainability, an outdoor picnic catered by Sodexo, and the showing of a feature film outdoors.

 Sustainability Festival—11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
 Movie on the Condit House Lawn (TBA)—8:30 p.m., Indiana State University Quad, (popcorn provided)