

School of Public and Environmental Affairs highlights, 2012-2013

Teaching and Learning

- SPEA IUPUI expanded its study abroad program. The number of SPEA IUPUI students who participated in a SPEA summer abroad program jumped by 59 percent over the previous year. Also, this was the first year Study Abroad included a Criminal Justice option; Kenna Quinet and Crystal Garcia of the SPEA IUPUI faculty led two classes in London.
<http://www.spea.iupui.edu/students/study-abroad-and-other/study-abroad.php>
- SPEA IUPUI welcomed a new Executive Associate Dean, Lilliard Richardson. Richardson's scholarly interests include public policy, state legislatures and research methods. Richardson earned a Ph.D. in Government at the University of Texas at Austin, and a B.A. in International Studies at Missouri State University. Since 2007, he has been a Professor at the Truman School of Public Affairs at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Richardson replaced Terry Baumer, who retired from SPEA after serving as a criminal justice professor at SPEA IUPUI from 1984 through 2012 and as Executive Associate Dean since 2009. <http://newscenter.iupui.edu/5816/Lilliard-Richardson-named-new-executive-associate-dean-of-SPEA-IUPUI>
- SPEA Student Services added two new full-time academic advisors. With their experience in advising and specific foci on recruitment and study abroad, SPEA saw increases in student numbers, credit hours, and study abroad participation.
- One hundred SPEA IUPUI students did internships in 2012-13, with the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, Indiana Senate and House of Representatives, the City of Indianapolis, Marion County judicial offices, Department of Homeland Security, and numerous nonprofit and for-profit organizations, ranging from United Way of Central Indiana to the Walt Disney Company.
- SPEA's undergraduate programs continued to grow. In terms of head count, SPEA went from 461 in 2010 to 527 in 2011 to 587 in 2012. The number of students transferring to SPEA grew from 92 in 2010 to 108 in 2011 to 130 in 2012. Applications were up as well. Seventy-four percent of undergraduate students pursued Criminal Justice majors. Degrees were awarded to 117 students in December 2012 and May 2013.
- Graduate programs also grew. In fall 2012, 181 people applied for SPEA's graduate programs, up from 171 the previous year. SPEA enrolled 85 grad students. In 2012-2013, SPEA awarded 129 graduate degrees: 82 master's degrees and 47 graduate certificates.
- SPEA was on the forefront of embracing the new IUPUI General Education core, actively serving on the implementation task force and faculty committees.



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- Retired Indiana Chief Justice Randall Shepard was named the first Executive in Residence at SPEA's Public Policy Institute. Shepard co-chaired PPI's Policy Choices for Indiana's Future project, as well as its Indiana Commission on Local Government Reform. Both made detailed recommendations intended to guide policy-makers' decisions and benefit the people of Indiana. Shepard will continue to serve as co-chair of PPI's Advisory Board.
<http://newscenter.iupui.edu/5650/Former-Chief-Justice-Randall-Shepard-will-join-IU-PublicPolicy-Institute-as-first-Executive-in-Residence>
- SPEA IUPUI signed on as the academic home for the new Justice and Pre-Law Community residential learning community for freshmen students interested in social justice and preparation for law school. Residents will develop and participate in meaningful programs, meet and live with students who share their interests, and have opportunities to network with professionals in their intended fields.
<http://www.spea.iupui.edu/future/undergrad/housing/justice-prelaw-community.php>
- More than 1,500 professionals participated in SPEA's Executive Education programs during academic year 2012-2013. <http://www.spea.iupui.edu/about/research/execed.php>
- Executive Education, in partnership with the IU School of Social Work (SSW), completed the first annual Child Welfare Management Innovations Institute. The institute is a new addition to the Indiana Child Welfare Education and Training Partnership, which provides high-quality education and training to Indiana Department of Child Services' staff.
- Mayors from cities across Indiana advanced their knowledge of best practices and engaged in discussions about issues facing today's local leaders, at the annual Mayors Institute. It is sponsored by the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns and taught by SPEA's Executive Education program.
- SPEA's Executive Education program continued to offer management training to leaders of Indiana hospitals and healthcare organizations through the Indiana Hospital Association Management Institute. This year's program welcomed the 32nd cohort of students. In addition, the 20th cohort of the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane Division, completed the Public Management Certificate program. And more than 50 leaders of state and federal highway and transportation agencies joined Executive Education for the National Transportation Leadership Institute, sponsored by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.

Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity

- SPEA IUPUI Professor Sheila Kennedy (and her colleague Tony Cox in the Kelley School of Business) received funding for an IUPUI Signature Centers Initiative, the Center for Civic Literacy. Most Americans are illiterate about civics, making them less engaged in democratic processes and unable to address societal issues. The Center seeks to correct this by increasing scholarly and public understanding of our civics deficit and by creating a



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clearinghouse for best practices on how to correct the problem. The Center is housed in the IU Public Policy Institute in Indianapolis. <http://civilliteracy.iupui.edu/>

- SPEA IUPUI students introduced *publicINreview*, an online journal that focuses on regional issues in the broad area of public affairs, discusses realistic application of emerging theory, and shares best practices with local practitioners and professionals. *publicINreview* is a forum where students can connect with practitioners in the Midwest. It includes student-written and practitioner-written articles.
<http://www.spea.iupui.edu/contact/publications/PIRhomepage.php>
- SPEA's Public Policy Institute (PPI, <http://www.policyinstitute.iu.edu/index.aspx>) kicked off a Fiscal Benchmarking Study that will provide a fiscal monitoring system for Indiana's local governments by analyzing data on revenue, spending and debt trends. The project will create fiscal distress indicators so government leaders and citizens can assess the strengths, weaknesses and challenges that governments face.
- PPI is working with the Indianapolis Marion County Public Library to analyze current and projected library use as part of a strategic planning process. The project will assess four areas:
 - Marion County population trends and future per capita capacity
 - Underserved and nonusers of the library
 - Consumer behavior of library users
 - Current and projected library use
- PPI is collaborating with the Indiana Department of Correction and the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute to screen inmates in Indiana's correctional facilities for traumatic brain injury, which can make it hard for prisoners to cope with life inside prisons and after they are released.
- PPI conducted an economic impact study for the Indianapolis Motor Speedway (IMS). It found that IMS and associated motorsports businesses generate more than \$510 million annually for the Indiana economy. The study also traced to IMS and related facilities 6,200 Indiana jobs, more than \$235 million in annual employee compensation, and more than \$145 million spent by about 200,000 visitors.
- SPEA hosted numerous experts who shared their experiences with students. Two examples are SPEA alum Scott Teal, an ATF agent who spoke on the topic of "Firearms in America: Investigating Federal Gun Crimes," and former Indiana Governor Joe Kernan, who spoke twice—once on his years in elected office, and a second time on commuting the sentence of a death row inmate and his subsequent work to reform capital punishment in Indiana.



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- SPEA instituted a new Honors Program for elite students. Fourteen students were accepted. They took part in Distinguished Alumni Council events and volunteered for the gubernatorial forum as well as commencement activities.

Diversity

- SPEA hosted visitors from Thailand's National Institute of Development Administration to begin the process of partnering with that institution to provide study abroad opportunities.
- SPEA professor Chao Guo traveled to Guangzhou, China with an IUPUI delegation to our partner institution, Sun Yat-sen University.

Civic Engagement

- SPEA and PPI hosted the Policy Choices for Indiana's Future Gubernatorial Forum, which featured all three candidates for Indiana governor (Democrat John Gregg, Republican Mike Pence and Libertarian Rupert Boneham) addressing issues critical to Indiana's future. The event attracted a capacity crowd and was broadcast live via streaming web video. PPI's Executive in Residence, Randall Shepard, led separate discussions with each candidate that focused on the policy options developed by the Policy Choices for Indiana's Future commissions on Education and Workforce Development, Energy and the Environment, and State and Local Tax Policy. <http://www.policyinstitute.iu.edu/PolicyChoices/index.aspx>
- In January, SPEA hosted a panel discussion on poverty featuring national talk show host and SPEA alumnus Tavis Smiley; SPEA Dean John Graham; SPEA alumnus Andy Fraizer, executive director of the Indiana Association for Community Economic Development; and James Taylor, CEO of the John H. Boner Community Center in Indianapolis. Marion County Superior Court Judge Cynthia Ayers, also a SPEA alumna, moderated the event. Smiley wrote the foreword for a new book, *America's Poor and the Great Recession*, authored by Graham and Kristin Seefeldt. As part of the panel discussion, two SPEA graduate students—Mike Marsala and Jennifer Thice, who were working at PPI—presented a white paper on “The New Face of Poverty” in Marion County.
- More than 60 nonprofit organizations (up from 48 the previous year) participated in the thirdannual IUPUI Nonprofit Expo, an IUPUI Career Services Council event coordinated by SPEA. More than 400 students looking for internships, jobs or volunteer opportunities with nonprofits or public service agencies met with representatives from 64 organizations as diverse as hospitals, the City of Indianapolis, federal government offices, food banks, housing advocates and the U.S. Peace Corps. <http://www.spea.iupui.edu/about/npexpo/index.php>
- The annual “Meat and Heat” drive, started by SPEA students in 2011-2012, teams up with the Hoosier Veterans Assistance Foundation (HVAF) to collect canned meat and warm clothing for the 500 homeless veterans living on the streets in Marion County. This year 20 IUPUI and Indianapolis organizations got involved and collected more than 10 times as many products—7,982 items—as the previous year.



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Best Practices

- SPEA initiated monthly Career Talks, workshops that help students prepare for their coming job searches, with topics including personal branding, networking skills and social media in the workplace. Career Talks also instructed students on how to make the most of meeting alumni during Career Exploration Trips to Chicago, Washington DC and Indianapolis.
- The “design-your-own-probation” program created by SPEA Student Services advisors was selected for presentation at a regional National Academic Advising Association conference and accepted for the national conference.

External Awards and Appointments

- Jeff Paine, SPEA IUPUI lecturer and Director of Public Affairs Programs, received the 2013 Trustees Teaching Award.
- SPEA IUPUI Associate Professor Crystal Garcia recognized as this year’s Barbara D. Jackson Outstanding First-Year Student Advocate.
- Kyle McCool, Director of Undergraduate Programs and Student Services at SPEA IUPUI, was honored by her peers as IUPUI’s Advising Administrator of the Year, presented by the Jaguar Academic Advising Association.
- Denise Scroggins won the 2012 Glenn W. Irwin, Jr. M.D. Experience Excellence Recognition Award.
- Two SPEA students—Whitney Dyer and Christian Hess—were elected President and Vice President of IUPUI’s Undergraduate Student Government.
- Doug Noonan was appointed to the EPA’s Science Advisory Board Environmental Justice Technical Guidance Review Panel.
- Abdul-Akeem Sadiq received a Curriculum Enhancement Grant from the IUPUI Center for Teaching and Learning to put SPEA’s Certificate in Homeland Security and Emergency Management online.
- Eight SPEA Criminal Justice students were sworn in as Speedway police officers in a unique collaboration between the School and the Town of Speedway.
- SPEA students started the Pi Alpha Alpha National Honors society for Public Affairs. This joins SPEA’s Alpha Phi Sigma, which is the Criminal Justice honor society. More than 50 SPEA students are represented in National Honor Societies.



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- Jerome Dumortier is faculty advisor for the IUPUI Energy Club student organization.
- Deb Mesch is Director of the Women's Philanthropy Institute at the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy.



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