

Biotechnology Program Off To A Strong Start



Dr. Senyong Lee (left), program chair and advisor for Ivy Tech-Bloomington's new Biotechnology program, provides detailed curriculum information to prospective students at a Biotechnology Open House held on Wednesday, August 11.

Biotechnology covers very broad areas that use living organisms or their substances to make beneficial products for humanity. Various natural sciences including cell and molecular biology, microbiology, genetics, physiology, and biochemistry, as well as medicine, engineering, and computer science are interdisciplinary areas of Biotechnology. In the last two decades there have been remarkable advances in many aspects of biotechnology: identification of new diagnostic procedures for dreadful diseases such as cancer; development of drugs for the treatment of diseases; alteration of genetic make up of plants and animals; and production of bacteria that clean up toxic wastes.

The 21st century provides tremendous potential for further development in the field of biotechnology to improve the quality of life for everyone. Rapid advancement and expansion of biotechnology strongly demands newly trained workforces in the area. The Hudson Institute projects that Indiana's life sciences/biotechnology industry could create 45,000 jobs over the next five years, with the majority requiring certificates, associate's degrees, and bachelor's degrees. Strong demands mean attractive salaries. The average salary of science technicians in Indiana is between \$33,000 and \$35,000 a year and those going on to their bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degrees can earn even more.

In designing its Biotechnology program, Ivy Tech-Bloomington consulted with community colleges that have model biotechnology programs, as well as with local businesses most closely associated with medical manufacturing, pharmaceutical and agricultural companies. The program also relies on the expertise of an advisory committee to identify program concentrations,

develop internship partnerships and align curricula so graduates are best prepared for local employment opportunities.

The Biotechnology program includes course work in biology, chemistry and other sciences, including offerings with a lab and technology focus. The course work has been tailored to the requirements of four-year colleges and universities so Ivy Tech's biotechnology students may readily transfer and complete baccalaureate degrees. In particular, Ivy Tech-Bloomington has worked very closely with Indiana University Bloomington to ensure the successful transfer of credits to Indiana University's Biotechnology program. In addition, the curriculum has also been customized to meet the needs of local biotech and life-sciences employers. The first group of graduates will complete their course work in 2006 and will support life-sciences sector businesses like Cook Inc., Baxter Pharmaceutical Solutions, Biomedix, Boston Scientific, KP Pharmaceuticals, Bloomington Hospital & Healthcare System and Cook Pharmica.

Ivy Tech plans to partner with elementary and secondary schools to make young students aware of biotechnology careers, the opportunities a biotechnology degree affords, and the academic foundation they will need to start college course work. This will create a pipeline of traditional-aged students into the biotechnology field. The college will also seek to establish dual high school/college credit programs for high school students.

The Biotechnology program is supported by a grant from the Lilly Endowment as part of its effort to slow the state's "brain drain" and keep more college graduates in the state.

Respiratory Care Program Update

The State Board of Trustees for Ivy Tech State College has passed a resolution in support of the addition of a new degree program at the Bloomington campus. The degree program, Respiratory Care, had been proposed as a result of community demand.

Ivy Tech-Bloomington's Dean of Academic Affairs, James O. Smith is pleased with statewide College support: "We are excited about the State Board of Trustees' approval of our Respiratory Care program, and this program will be an excellent addition to our Health Sciences Division. We submitted this program to our Regional and State Boards at the request of Bloomington Hospital. Statistics show that Respiratory Care jobs will be in high demand in the future, and developing this specialized skill now will help meet workforce needs. Our graduates will be employed in hospitals, nursing care facilities, clinics, and physicians' offices."

The Respiratory Care program will prepare students for a career as a Respiratory Therapist by giving them scientific knowledge and the theory of practical clinical problems to care for patients.

The respiratory therapist is qualified to assume primary responsibility for all respiratory care modalities, including the supervision of respiratory therapy technician functions. Respiratory Care students wishing to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in Respiratory Care will be able to do so by completing the Associate of Science degree and transferring it to IUPUI.

The student clientele served by the Respiratory Care program will include high school graduates wishing to continue their education in a marketable technology, individuals wishing to re-enter the work force with new skills, and currently employed people wishing to continue or supplement their education for the purpose of career advancement and academic enrichment. The Respiratory Care degree program, offered in both Associate of Science and Associate of Applied Science formats, will require 24 credits in general education and 55 credits in technical core courses.

The Respiratory Care program has been forwarded to the Commission for Higher Education for final approval.

A Resounding Welcome!



August 23rd was the first day of the 2004-05 academic year and Ivy Tech welcomed the largest enrollment of students the campus has seen at the start of a fall semester. Instead of a red carpet, the first early birds to turn up for their 7:30 am classes heard the sounds of a Scottish bagpiper as they parked outside Ivy Tech's state-of-the-art building and were greeted in person at the main entrance by Chancellor John Whikehart.

According to Chancellor Whikehart, there are several reasons for the increase in enrollment: "We have been deliberate in partnering with colleges and universities, especially with Indiana University Bloomington, IUPUI, Indiana State and others in our attempt to secure transfer opportunities for Ivy Tech graduates to continue to the bachelor's level. Many of our students are not content to stop after two years and are planning their degrees beyond the associate's level." Whikehart also believes that more students are recognizing the quality of Ivy Tech programs. "Students choose Ivy Tech for two basic reasons – our programs prepare them for immediate entry level employment, or prepare them for transfer to a four-year college, or both."

"Students," adds Whikehart, "are seeing Ivy Tech as the gateway to higher education: We will continue to draw attention to the value and benefits of a community college. We take note of what our students say is important to them. They cite overall cost, small class size, transferability, the quality of academic programs, convenience, and easy access to financial assistance as a few of the factors that make Ivy Tech their college of choice." Distance education was cited as another factor for the increased enrollment. More online courses and two-way video classes are being offered. Classes that combine online learning, two-way videos and classroom instruction will be a future option for Ivy Tech students.

New Trustee Appointed

On June 10, the Ivy Tech State College Board of Trustees announced the appointment of Gary Chaplin, a representative for Edward Jones Investments in Martinsville, to the Ivy Tech Bloomington's Regional Board of Trustees. He will represent the manufacturing seat on the board and replaces Bill Cunningham, former president of the Greater Martinsville Chamber of Commerce.



Chaplin is looking forward to putting his extensive experience to work for Ivy Tech State College-Bloomington. "It is a special honor, as an alumnus of Ivy Tech State College, to be nominated to the Board of Trustees. I feel that my perspective as an employer, community servant and investment representative, combined with small town values and ethics will allow me to view issues facing the

experience in each of these areas and will help develop solutions in the best interest of Ivy Tech and the broad spectrum of students it serves."

Ivy Tech Provides Healthcare Industry With More Nurses

After a year of intensive study, 34 students left Ivy Tech State College-Bloomington in July with a technical certificate in Practical Nursing. Most of these graduates will take the state licensure exam to become Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs). If they haven't already secured jobs, they are in the process of applying for them. What this means for the economy and local communities is an injection of much-needed skilled nurses are made available for the healthcare industry in south central Indiana to help shore up the ever present nursing shortage.

Ivy Tech's Practical Nursing program was developed in 1966 through the cooperative efforts of Bloomington Hospital & Healthcare System, the public school system, and a grant from the federal government. Sponsorship was transferred to Ivy Tech State College in 1968. Since then, the program has graduated 1,955 students who typically fill nursing and allied health positions in Monroe and surrounding counties.

The licensed practical nurse (LPN) is an integral part of the health care team. The Practical Nursing program at Ivy Tech State College-Bloomington is a one-year course of study leading to a technical certificate. This accredited program prepares the individual to take the state licensure exam to become a licensed practical nurse. The Practical Nursing program is accredited by both the Indiana State Board of Nursing and the National League of Nursing Accreditation Commission (NLNAC).

"Each graduating program, of which there are two a year, participates in a pinning ceremony," says Celinda Kay Leach, chair of the Practical Nursing program. The pinning ceremony tradition was continued on Friday, July 23rd on the College campus where these 34 students, all members of the Practical Nursing class of July 2004, were acknowledged as being successful in their field of study.

Continues Leach: "The year-long Practical Nursing program is an intense and demanding course of study and challenges students on many levels, not only in the classroom. Family members often



1. Nursing students preparing for their finals. 2. The Practical Nursing Class of July 2004 lines up before the pinning ceremony. 3. Over 400 family members, friends and faculty gather in the Student Commons to see the students honored. 4. Some nursing students take time out to chat and gaze out over the main lobby before gathering for the pinning ceremony. 5. A ceremonial line develops as students are pinned. 6. Candles are lit before the students recite the Nurse's Pledge together. 7. A joyous moment as a faculty member congratulates a student after the pinning ceremony.

shoulder the stresses these students experience during the year. Our pinning ceremonies allow us to commend our students and acknowledge the supportive role family and friends play in their success!" The guest speaker at the July pinning ceremony was Stacey Hubbell, Director of Nursing at Hospitality House.

Institutions that support Ivy Tech nursing programs as clinical sites include Bloomington Hospital & Healthcare System, Hospitality House of Bloomington, Meadowood Retirement Community, Richland Bean Blossom Healthcare Center, and The Residence at McCormick's Creek.

Ivy Tech at the County Fairs



Ivy Tech-Bloomington was active at all local County Fairs this summer. Faculty, staff and students took time to talk to fellow Hoosiers about educational opportunities at the College. Fairs attended included those in Owen, Morgan, Monroe, Greene, Lawrence and Martin Counties.

Online Bookstore



In its quest to improve and streamline services for students, Ivy Tech-Bloomington recently launched its online bookstore. This site enables students to search for books and pay for them online. In addition, students can request delivery to their front door. The site can be accessed at <http://bookstore.bloomington.ivytech.edu>

First Ivy Tech CERT Team for Monroe County

On September 2, Ivy Tech Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members arrived at Van Buren Township Fire Department, 2130 S. Kirby Road, to find a building that was damaged by an earthquake. The CERT Team members successfully secured the disaster scene by shutting off all utilities (water, natural gas and electricity) and checking for fire. Once the scene was secured, they searched the damaged structure for victims, pulling victims to safety or cribbing heavy debris to release victims from being trapped. Other team members began to perform triage on the victims once the triage area was established.

This was the scenario of a real-life emergency for Ivy Tech's CERT Team members to practice the skills they had received in the classroom sessions. The skills necessary to respond to this "disaster" included site assessment, triage, first aid and search and rescue.

This is the second CERT Team trained in Monroe County, the first comprising employees from TASUS Corporation. The CERT Team members are now able to aid emergency response agencies in Monroe County should a disaster or emergency strike the locale. The CERT teams can also be used in other areas around the county if a need arises. Ivy Tech plans on recruiting a second CERT Team.

"I am pleased that Ivy Tech responded to my call to participate," said John Hooker III, Director of Monroe County Emergency Management. "It is important for us to have trained and prepared personnel on the Ivy Tech campus who can provide much-needed assistance should a disaster or emergency strike. I was pleased to hear the ideas that emerged from the Ivy Tech CERT Team members as they talked about planning strategies, securing additional supplies for the Ivy Tech campus and preplanning for hazards. I believe in the CERT program and am confident the Ivy Tech campus is a safer place now than it has been, thanks to its new team."

The instructors were from Monroe County Emergency Management. They are: Richard McLaughlin, Monroe County CERT Coordinator and Deputy Sheriff with the Monroe County Sheriff's Department; Steve Gilliam, a firefighter with Van Buren Township Fire Department and Bloomington Hospital Ambulance Service who is the Emergency Medical Services instructor; Max Ferree, a retired fire chief from Van Buren Township Fire Department who is the fire instructor; and Ken Long, with IU Risk Management, who is the Emergency Management instructor.



Above: CERT members meet for classroom instruction. Below: Members of Ivy Tech's CERT team pose for a group photograph. Team members include Eric Begeman, Shirley Poindexter, Doug Mattick, Missy Robertson, Jeremy Gaddis, Steve Hanson, Tyler Bass, Bonnie Overton, Rita Brown and Dave Johnson. Also pictured with the group is Maria Del Mar Carrasquillo.

