

Criminology Distinguished Alumni Honored by PASSHE



An Indiana University of Pennsylvania Distinguished Alumni Award recipient will be honored by the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education for her longstanding contributions to diversity, equity, and inclusions efforts at IUP. Debra Evans Smith, a 1981 IUP criminology graduate who received the university's Distinguished Alumni Award in 2022, is an inaugural Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education Keepers of the Flame award recipient. Smith retired from the FBI after a 30-year, award winning career. Smith was honored on Nov. 4 during the State System's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Summit. The Summit, which was held virtually, was livestreamed.

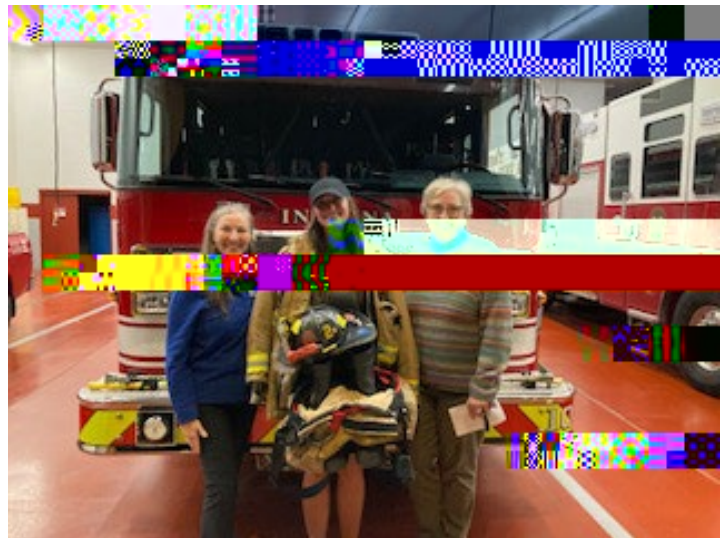
"Debra Evans Smith is really the gold standard of involved and committed alumni," Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer and Title IX Coordinator Elise Glenn said.

"She has distinguished herself with an incredible, award-winning 30-year career, and continues to give back to the university and to our students in all possible ways," Glenn said. "It is our honor to nominate her for this recognition."

Smith currently serves on IUP's Alumni Board of Directors and the Black Experience Alumni Committee. She has made numerous presentations to IUP students and staff over the years, including serving on the "Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity in a Professional Workplace" panel discussion held in March 2021 and she spoke during an event for students after the Derek Chauvin verdict. In her continued commitment to mentoring students, she also spoke to criminology students at IUP on Nov. 1. She was the first alumni representative on the President's Commission for Diversity and Inclusion.

Faculty Awarded Grant to Help Local Indiana County Firefighters

Dr. Leslie Stenger and Dr. Stephanie Taylor-Davis were awarded an IUP Strategic Plan Mini Grant for the IUP F3 (Firefighter Fit) Program. Graduate assistants, Grace Kerr and Tara Baney, will help to recruit and prepare the undergraduate students in the departments of KHSS and FDNT to work together to provide fitness and nutritional opportunities to the volunteer firefighters in Indiana County by teaming with the Indiana Fire Association. The program will start in February 2023 with the fitness testing followed by individualized programming which includes nutritional counseling, personal training, small group



training, and/or corrective exercise programming. The fitness level of firefighters may truly be a matter of life and death, and their health and wellbeing should be of paramount concern to the entire community. One aim for the program is to identify and monitor health-related issues (e.g., cardiovascular health) and provide opportunities for fitness improvement to optimize performance of the firefighter in the line of duty.

KHSS Faculty Member Serves as Senior Editor and Author

Dr. Leslie Stenger served as the Senior Editor and author of three chapters





Academy of Culinary Arts Holds Cookie Competition

On November 19th, 2022, 6 Academy students participated in a holiday cookie bake-off. Sponsored by the ACF Groundhog Chapter, students were required to submit their best cookie recipe, inspired by the holidays, and from there 6 students were chosen to compete in a live competition.

The competition took place during an Academy Open House, so not only was this a fantastic way to



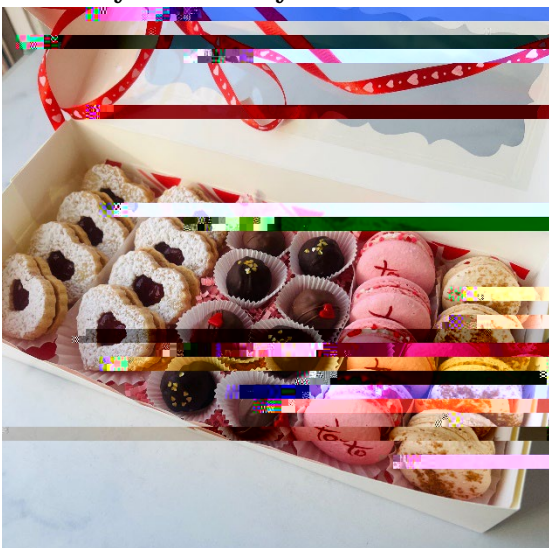
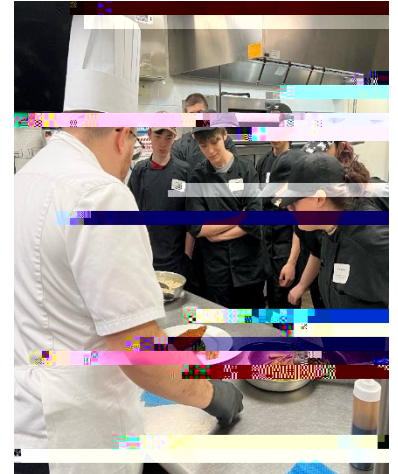
Academy of Culinary Arts Hosts PA ProStart Bootcamp



On Thursday January 12, 2023, the IUP Academy of Culinary Arts welcomed seven vocational programs to the kitchens of the culinary academy for an annual ProStart Boot Camp. A total of 40 Pennsylvania high school students, 8 educators, and 6 IUP chefs participated in the annual event.

This year's event featured round table discussions with Chef John Kapusta, practical cooking experience with Chef Thomas Barnes, dessert plating demonstrations with Chef Erin Reed, and recipe costing, planning, and training sessions with Chef Melinda McIsaac. Kala Vargo, Culinary Admissions Coordinator was available to meet with potential future students and offered prizes and awards for both students and all vocational faculty. Lunch was planned and prepared for all participants by Chef Lynn Pike.

The "Boot Camp" program allows Pennsylvania high school ProStart teams a chance to learn tips and tricks about the competition and how to become more successful in planning and executing their creative menus. The boot camp program, now in its fourth year, was developed by Chef Andrew Nutter in coordination with Hope Sterner of the Pennsylvania Restaurant and Lodging Association to promote both IUP's culinary program and the PA State ProStart curriculum. The ProStart program is a high school vocational curriculum developed by industry professionals and provides training for the students in all aspects of the foodservice industry. IUPACA supports ProStart by judging many state level competitions conducted in Georgia, Maryland, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and West Virginia. Chef Nutter and Chef Erin Reed have also judged at the national level in Washington D.C., Texas, and California. All teams who place in the state and national ProStart events qualify for a \$2000 scholarship to the IUP Academy of Culinary Arts.



Academy for Culinary Arts Holiday Treat Boxes

The now annual holiday treat box fundraiser, helmed by Chef Erin Reed, has more than doubled its profits in this 3rd year of production, raising \$6,500 with the addition of our Academy Spice Rub and Hot Cocoa gift sets. In February, the Academy added the production of a Valentine's Day treat box. In partnership with the ACF Groundhog Chapter, faculty at the Academy of Culinary Arts are working toward a \$25,000 goal to establish an endowed scholarship. Thank you to all who ordered!

Indiana County Walking Decathlon

Join the Indiana County Walking Decathlon and choose from hikes, walks, and fun family events throughout the county. Dr. Leslie Stenger of the Kinesiology, Health, and Sports Science Department has served on the planning committee since the inception in 2017. One of the main goals of the committee is to identify walking routes and form sustainable walking groups that will enhance and expand active transportation networks with the goal of improving the health of county residents. There are both in-person group events and self-guided tours, and all walks take place between Feb 11th and June 3rd. Copies of the flyers with details regarding each walk are located in the James Mill Fitness Center and the CHHS Dean's Office, both in Zink Hall. You can also see the flyer [here](#).

Health and Physical Education Student Receives Award

Riley Prugh, a junior undergraduate student in the Health and Physical Education Teacher Education program, was recognized as the 2022 recipient of the Outstanding Future Professional Award.

This award is given by the PA chapter of the Society of Health and Physical Educators (SHAPE PA), an organization for health and physical education professionals. The Outstanding Future Professional Award recognizes student achievements in academics, professional service and potential, and contributions to the university and community.

Prugh is very active in her major, the university, and her local community. She is also IUP's liaison for a state-wide SHAPE PA Future Professional Advisory Council. Prugh received her award at the state SHAPE PA Convention this past December.

IUP's Health and Physical Education Teacher Education students and alumni have a strong history of winning state-level professional awards. IUP students have won a state award in four out of the past five years. This demonstrates IUP's commitment to the health and physical education discipline and to student professional preparation.

Dave LaPorte Memorial Enhancement Fund

Dr. David LaPorte was a neuropsychologist who taught at IUP from 1995 until he passed away in 2022. He was a beloved faculty member in the Psychology Department who was known for his agile mind, incisive wit, and compassionate heart. Dr. LaPorte often operated in the role of institutional



The fund will be used to support the professional development of students in the PsyD in Clinical Psychology program. The allocation of these funds will be overseen by the Clinical Training Committee in the Psychology Department at IUP. The use of these funds can be flexible and based on current needs, but may include initiatives such as:

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