



# Aspirations

Indiana University

Fall 2011

INDIANA UNIVERSITY BLOOMINGTON

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## INDIANA UNIVERSITY

### Administrative Staff:

*Director*  
Janice L. Wiggins  
*Associate Director for Student Academic Support/ Academic Advisor*  
Roger Gildersleeve  
rgilders@indiana.edu

*Associate Director/Financial Aid Administrator*  
Annie Willis  
willisa@indiana.edu

**Staff:**  
*Academic Advisor/Tutor*  
Jana D. Cox  
jadcox@indiana.edu

*Academic Advisor/Tutor*  
Burhan Elturun  
belturan@indiana.edu

*Coordinator for Program Assessment and Development,/ Academic Advisor*  
R. Gordon Hershey  
bershey@indiana.edu

*Coordinator of Upperclassmen Initiatives*  
Vincent Isom  
visom@indiana.edu

*Academic Advisor/Tutor*  
Kimberly Jenkins  
kemross@indiana.edu

*Coordinator of Academic Advising/ Advisor*  
Wakisha Malone  
wamalone@indiana.edu

*Academic Advisor*  
Lou Moir  
moirl@indiana.edu

*Math Tutor & Instructor*  
Scott Salak  
ssalak@indiana.edu

*Academic Advisor/Math Tutor*  
Rebecca Wilson  
wilsonr@indiana.edu

**Support Staff:**  
*Office Manager*  
Katrina Jones  
kj5@indiana.edu

*Office Services Assistant*  
Michelle Hensley-Decker  
milyhens@indiana.edu

**Graduate Assistants**  
Quinten Speight qspeigh@indiana.edu  
Eric Williams ericwill@indiana.edu

**Editor**  
Leab Davis gildavis@indiana.edu

## A Message From the Director

Greetings to you from the Groups Program! We are pleased to present our Fall 2011 Aspirations newsletter to the faculty, staff, and students of Indiana University. Spring semester 2011 ended with many accomplishments by our students! We are pleased to share them with you. We established a new mentoring program for females majoring in the sciences and math, and Chi Alpha Epsilon Honor Society was promoted to jewel status. This is a great honor. Our program initiatives continue to increase and show the demand for even more diverse services to support the needs of our students.

As always, we thank the many university administrators, faculty, and departments that collaborate with us to provide programming, interventions, and resources for Groups student participants. We cannot thank you enough. You truly help to make the Groups Program a great success. With your support, our students' educational aspirations can be achieved!



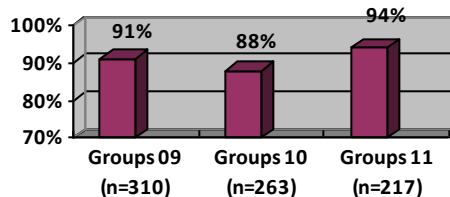
## Groups Program Highlights

### Student Retention

The Groups Program is achieving its mission by demonstrating increased retention for first generation and underrepresented students at Indiana University, Bloomington (IUB). The retention rate measures Groups students who successfully complete the Groups Summer Experience Program (SEP) and return to IUB for the fall freshman year. The SEP helps recent high school graduates transition to a four year college environment and earn credit for freshman courses. Student persistence remains high and is a direct outcome of the SEP and other Groups Program initiatives, interventions, and resources that contribute to the overall success of student participants.

The data show that out of 231 eligible students, 217 returned to IUB after successfully completing the SEP. The most significant trend is the increase in student persistence over time between 2009 and 2011. There was a slight decrease

Freshman Summer to Fall Retention Rate



in 2010; however, the rate substantially increased in 2011 to 94%. The persistence rates are often higher when compared to underserved students not enrolled in the Groups Program at IUB .

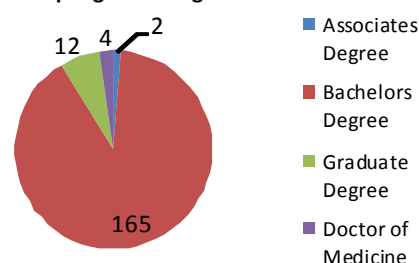
### Degrees Awarded

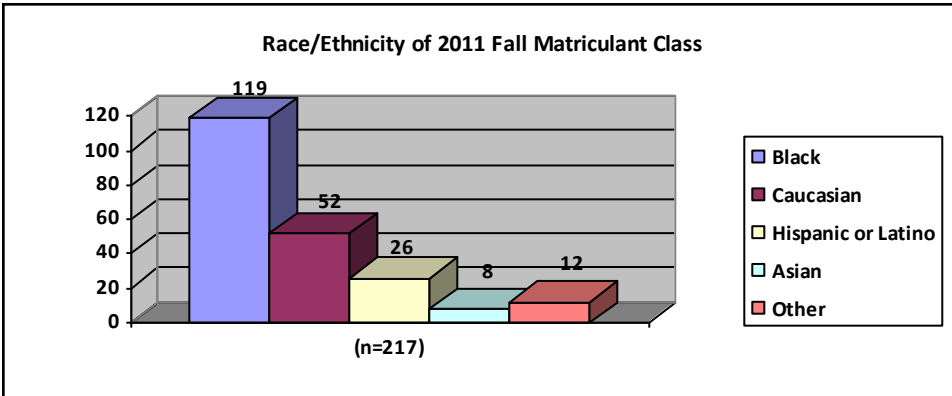
Many students who enter the Groups Program are retained and complete their degree within six years. One hundred and eighty-three Groups students completed degrees at IU in the spring of 2011. The majority of

degrees awarded were to undergraduates; 165 earned a bachelor's degree.

Students from the remaining three categories shown earned an associate, graduate, or doctorate degree.

Spring 2011 Degrees Awarded





Race/Ethnicity

Approximately three fourths of the students enrolled in the Groups Program come from diverse racial and cultural backgrounds. About 55% self identify as Black or African American. Twenty-four percent are Caucasian. Twelve percent are Hispanic or Latino. Approximately four percent self-identify as Asian. Six percent are categorized as other.

Over 65% of students of color enrolled on the IUB campus enter through programs such as Groups that report to the Division of the Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs. Of these programs, Groups enrolls the largest number of diverse students.

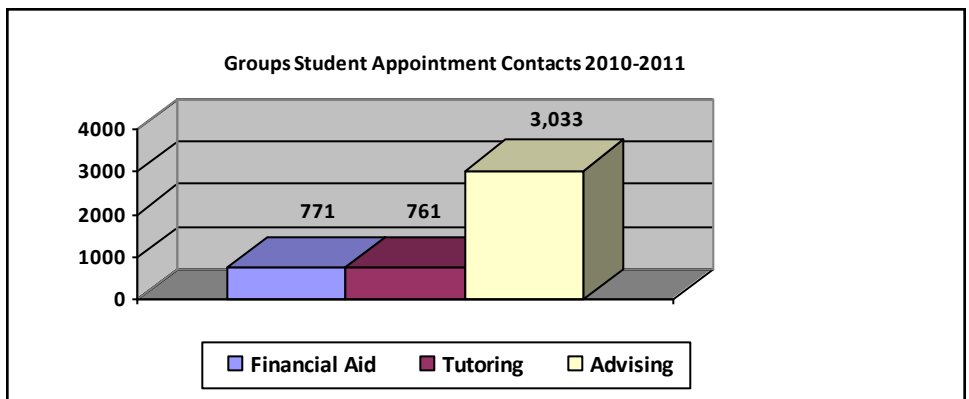
Gender

Of the 217 students that matriculated from the SEP to the fall semester, one hundred and thirty-three were female, and eighty-four were male. Female enrollment was a little more than two-thirds higher than male.

Appointment Contacts

A total of 4,565 advising, tutoring, and financial aid counseling appointment contacts were made with Groups students between the summer and spring semesters during the 2010-2011 academic year.

The contacts represent appointments with incoming freshmen and upper-class students for academic monitoring, selection of major, grade reports, group / individual tutoring, and financial aid management and budgeting. Appointment contacts are a critical service that help Groups students academically and financially to successfully attain their baccalaureate degree.



**NEWS FLASH!!! Marquez Carlisle, 2011-2012 Cox Scholar Recipient**

*Leah Davis*

Groups '09 student Marquez Carlisle was awarded a Cox Legacy Scholarship by Indiana University, Bloomington for the 2011-2012 academic year. Cox Scholarships are awarded to IU students who demonstrate high academic performance, motivation, and resourcefulness. The scholarship was established by Jesse and Beulah Cox to students who are committed to their education and work while pursuing their degree.

Marquez is a junior double majoring in Pre-law / History and African American and African Diaspora studies. He plans to attend Law

School at IU or a similar university to practice corporate law. His ideal job is to work for a corporate law firm in the area of private equity. His interest in law first began when he witnessed several people who were close to him get in trouble with the law.

Marquez balances coursework while working for the Student Recreational Sports Center and Amazon.com. He even finds time to perform community service in his fraternity Alpha Phi Alpha. When not studying or serving in the Bloomington community, Marquez likes to play basketball or relax. He is a native of Indianapolis and attended Cardinal Ritter High School.



## New Women in Science Mentoring Program Initiative



**WISP Mentees are given a lab tour by Dr. Maren Pink, Chemistry Department**

*Leah Davis*

In the fall of 2010, the Women in Science Mentoring Program was established as a program initiative between the Women in Science Program (WISP) in the Office for Women's Affairs and the Groups Program. The program matches female Groups students majoring in the sciences and math with a faculty or student

mentor in the same or comparable area of study.

The program provides students with resources, information, and training to enhance academic learning and professional skill development needed to successfully complete their degree.

There are eleven matched mentee and mentor pairs. Student majors include biology, chemis-

try, lab sciences, and psychology. Many of the current participants are planning to attend graduate or medical school.

During the 2010-2011 academic year, student mentees and their mentors participated in one-on-one mentoring, group activities, a Kick-off Celebration, and the Women in Science Research Conference.

The year-end activities culminated in a lab tour and talk given by Dr. Maren Pink in the Chemistry Department. The lab tour was interactive and students were allowed to showcase their knowledge by engaging in questions and answers with Dr. Pink about molecular structure, molecular visualization, and crystallography. At the close of the tour, a panel of doctoral students in Chemistry spoke to the students about science related issues and answered questions.

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a participant, please contact Vince Isom at the Groups Office at 812-855-0507 or by email at [groups@indiana.edu](mailto:groups@indiana.edu).

## Congratulations to the 2011 Chi Alpha Epsilon Honor Society Inductees!

In the spring of 2011, thirteen students were inducted in the Chi Alpha Epsilon Honor Society for academic excellence. The new inductees were:

- LaTonja Anderson
- Martin Baker
- Maurice Evans
- Chelsea Faver
- Vivian Grimes
- Maria Grinston
- Victoire Iradukunda
- Kyle Little
- Lauren Rodriguez
- Gerald Rowe
- William Sanders
- Sarah Vincent
- Latonya Yarbro
- Kimberly Jenkins, Honorary Member



**Chi Alpha Epsilon Spring 2011 Inductees**

## Laimarie Alas: Future Medical Doctor in the Making!

*Leah Davis*

Laimarie Alas is a Groups '08 student achieving her goal of becoming a medical doctor. She has golden dreams of owning her own clinic to serve the medically indigent. Laimarie believes she is called to serve people who lack healthcare and the finances to pay for them.



**Laimarie Alas, Groups Student**

Laimarie has already received training in serving the needy. She is Vice President of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention for the IU Global Medical Brigades (IUGMB). The IUGMB is a local unit of the national organization that provides healthcare to people outside of the

U.S. in poor areas that lack the resources to provide quality medical care.

In March 2010 during spring break, Laimarie helped lead a brigade of 40 IU students, a nurse, pharmacist, and 3<sup>rd</sup> year medical student to Honduras. The group hired 4 local Honduran physicians to assist them with providing medical care to local communities.

*As a Vice President in the IU Global Medical Brigades, Laimarie is focused on providing medical services to those who live in underserved communities.*

Laimarie helped to oversee the group, which provided gynecological, dental, and regular routine medical care. Approximately 1,700 patients were treated. The students educated patients about medical issues to increase sus-

tainability and health awareness.

Laimarie is majoring in Biology and plans to attend medical school after she completes a Master's in Science degree.



**Laimarie on IU Medical Brigades trip in Honduras, Central America**

## Groups Scholar On the Move: Brandon Washington

*Leah Davis*

Brandon Washington is a Groups '10 scholar who is on the move on the IUB campus! He demonstrates excellence in academic achievement and leadership on the IU campus. Earning above a 3.5 the fall semester of his freshman year, Brandon was inducted in the Phi Eta Sigma and Alpha Lambda Delta National Honor Societies. Brandon is a Public Health major.

Brandon states that he takes his leadership on campus very seriously. He is a born leader and works skillfully to make decisions that benefit students on the IU campus. Brandon is a Union Board Director and oversees the "Live From Bloomington" division, the largest programming unit on the IU campus. Money raised through this program is donated to the hungry in Bloomington.

Brandon was selected by the Groups Program to participate in the overseas study course and

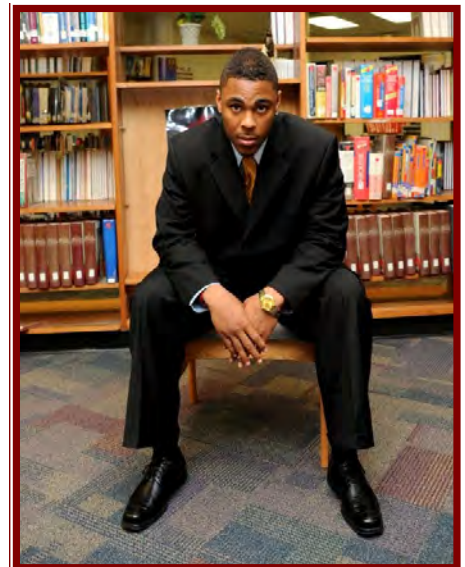
trip to Ghana and London in May. He traveled with a group of 21 students to learn about the trans-Atlantic slave trade, slavery in Ghana, and the Ghanaian culture.

Brandon has a heart to give to others, especially the youth. He makes time to volunteer at the Boys & Girls Club in Bloomington. He reads to children and assists with other activities that encourage youth development.

Brandon demonstrates that hard work pays off. He was the first recipient in the state of Indiana to be awarded the PeyBack Scholarship in 2010 by the PeyBack Foundation. The award was presented by NFL great and Colts quarterback, Peyton Manning, founder of the PeyBack Foundation.

There is no reason to question why Brandon was chosen to receive the prestigious scholarship from a pool of outstanding students in Indianapolis. He attended Arlington High

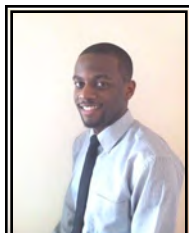
School, was senior class president, top of his graduating class, a three sport athlete, and a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholar.



**Brandon Washington, Groups Scholar**

**Student Achievements**

Groups students were recognized during the 2010-2011 academic year for student leadership, scholarly academic research, maintaining high grade point averages, and community service. Several are highlighted:



**Marlon Webb (G07)** was a recipient of the Tavis Smiley Scholarship for the 2010-2011 school year. The scholarship was awarded by the School of Public & Environmental Affairs.

**LaTonya Yarbro (G09)** was honored as an Atkins Scholar for maintaining a GPA over 3.85 for two consecutive semesters. She was vice president of the Atkins Living Learning Center and Union Board Assistant Director. LaTonya is a member of Chi Alpha Epsilon Honor Society.



**Joanne Thomasen (G08)** completed an overseas studies program in Copenhagen, Denmark for six weeks in the summer of 2011.



**Neftali "Zuri" Arriaga (G10)** was awarded the prestigious Omar Castaneda Scholarship by the Groups Program during the 2011 spring semester for her academic achievements.

**Chevroen Washington (G09)** served as president of the Campus Girl Scouts at IU for the 2010-2011 school year and will fulfill the same office for the 2011-2012 academic year. She was responsible for helping to establish the organization on the IU campus.



**Lakyra Pharms (G05)** completed her internship with the Cook Family Health Center in Bloomington. She is a pre-med student majoring in Human Development and

Family Studies with minors in Chemistry and Medical Science.

**Anna Berkowitz (G08)** participated in the Swahili Flagship Language Program in Zanzibar, East Africa where she completed an intensive eight week course in Swahili.



**Bernard Mickle (G07)** was accepted in the IUPD Cadet Program. He is a social work major and a member of Chi Alpha Epsilon Honor Society.

**David Macon (G08)** is completing a marketing internship at Cook Medical, Inc. He is the director of programming for the Undergraduate Black MBA Association and works in the Kelley Office of Diversity Initiatives. David is a business marketing major.

**TaChyla Murray (G06)** was awarded the Gillman International Scholarship to study abroad in Tanzania, Africa the spring of 2011.

**Crystal Ayinbode (G07)** spent the fall of 2010 studying in Japan. She is a pre-med student and is parliamentarian of the IU Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students.



**Chi Alpha Epsilon Earns Jewel Chapter Status**

*Vince Isom*

The Chi Alpha Epsilon Honor Society adds another distinction to its history. During the spring semester 2011, the Alpha Delta Chapter of Chi Alpha Epsilon sponsored by the Groups Program earned the honor of being awarded a Jewel Chapter by its national chapter.

Jewel Chapter status is earned when the chapter's roster reflects that members have achieved a 3.5 G.P.A. or higher since their induction and more than 75% of the currently enrolled members earned jewel pins. Jewel pins are earned by chapter members upon induction and are based on the student's G.P.A.

A special plaque will be made that includes the names of the members for the chapter's historical record. This honor will be noted on the national website.

In 2006, the chapter was recognized nationally as a "Model Chapter" for demonstrating excellence in carrying out the national motto: excellence, scholarship, leadership, ingenuity, and service. In addition, the chapter's website was awarded first place by the national chapter.

Founded in 1989 at West Chester University in Pennsylvania, Chi Alpha Epsilon was created to recognize the academic success of students. The honor society has over 200 chapters throughout the U.S.





## INDIANA UNIVERSITY GROUPS 2011

### Groups Overseas Study: Ghana, East Africa

*Leah Davis*

During the summer of 2011, twenty-one students from the Groups and Hudson and Holland Scholars Programs traveled to Ghana and England as participants in an IU study abroad course. Students toured nine of the ten regions of Ghana, including the capital of Accra. In Ghana, students learned about the evolution of the trans-Atlantic slave trade and its impact on modern day culture and society in Ghana and other societies where slaves were traded. Students toured the slave camp, slave market, cemetery, slave castles, and other cultural sites.

Students physically traced parts of the trans-Atlantic slave route to Liverpool, England. In Liverpool, students attended a lecture on slavery by Dr. Paul Boyle at the University of Liverpool, visited the slave trading ports and International Slavery Museum. The trip culminated in England where students visited the slavery exhibits at the British Museum and toured the London Tower, which holds the crown jewels and other artifacts that originated from Africa.



Groups Program  
Indiana University  
750 E. Kirkwood Ave.  
Maxwell Hall 200  
Bloomington, IN 47405

Phone: 812-855-0507  
Fax: 812-855-5235  
E-mail: [groups@indiana.edu](mailto:groups@indiana.edu)  
[www.indiana.edu/~Groups](http://www.indiana.edu/~Groups)

*A unit under the Division of the Office of the  
Vice President for Diversity, Equity, & Multicultural Affairs*