African Scholars Visit Nigeria

Paul Newman (Linguistics and West African Languages Institute) and Roxana Ma Newman (Office of International Programs) spent the month of July as visiting scholars at the invitation of Bayero University in Kano, Nigeria. During their stay, they met with Indiana University alumni Dandatti Abdulkadir, Mustapha Ahmad, Ismail Junaidu, and Sammani Sani, who all received their Ph.D. degrees at IU Bloomington.

Paul Newman, who was the first permanent director of Bayero’s Centre for the Study of Nigerian Languages, 1972–75, presented copies of his latest book, *The Hausa Language: An Encyclopedic Reference Grammar* (Yale University Press, 2000), to Vice Chancellor Musa Abdullahi, and to the acting director of the Centre, Abubakar Keffin-Hausa. Newman’s comprehensive grammar was received with great enthusiasm at a public lecture attended by over 300 people. On that occasion, Roxana Newman, also a former senior researcher at Bayero University, announced a gift to the Centre of all royalties from the Nigerian (Longman, 1997) edition of her English-Hausa dictionary (Yale, 1990). A highlight of their stay was a special audience with one of Nigeria’s most respected traditional leaders, Alhaji Dr. Ado Bayero, the Emir of Kano, to whom they also presented copies of their books.

Distance Education Nursing Certificate Offered in Malaysia

Diane M. Billings, professor of nursing and associate dean for Teaching, Learning, and Information Resources of the IU School of Nursing (IUSON) in Indianapolis has launched a new certificate program for nurse tutors in Malaysia. The program is a collaborative agreement between the school’s Center for Teaching Excellence and Lifelong Learning and Pantai Institute of Health Science and Nursing in Kuala Lumpur. The purpose of the program is to prepare registered nurses in Malaysia to assume roles as educators in schools of nursing and in health care agencies. The participants will complete a three-month teaching practicum and be eligible for employment in the role of nurse tutor.

The IUSON course, named Nurse Tutors Certificate Course, started on July 18, 2000, and will run through March 15, 2001, with eight students enrolled. The nine-month program uses a combination of Web-based teaching and learning activities, as well as on-site instruction. The course uses the WebCT course management system to design and deliver modules, assignments, and readings on the Web, and to manage classroom discussions.

In addition, students and instructors communicate with each other through regular e-mail. During the course of the program, Billings will pay three visits to the site.

The course is offered through the Continuing Education Program of the School of Nursing and is the first to be offered to an international constituency. For further information, contact Diane Billings (dbillin@iupui.edu) or Mary Lindsey (mflindse@iupui.edu) at IUSON.