Research interests:

- My research interests revolve around the emerging American Millennial generation and their charitable giving and volunteer attitudes, behaviors and use of technology to engage in philanthropy.

Research methodologies:

- I will utilize mix methodologies including an analysis of existing data on volunteer and charitable giving trends, surveys, personal interviews and case studies.

Tentative Dissertation Title: American Millenial Philanthropy: The Digital Native Approach to Volunteerism and Charitable Giving

Primary Advisor: Dr. Dwight Burlingame

Research Statement:

The American Millenial Philanthropy research project will describe the millennial generation and their distinguishing characteristics, seek to understand societal issues that are important to them, their use of technology to create community, and the volunteer actions they take to improve the lives around them and across the globe.

The purpose of the research project is to provide a Millenial generational analysis including their sense of community, charitable giving, pervasive use of technology and volunteer behaviors from 1980-2012. The research will entail a review of existing research on generational trends in volunteerism and giving with specific emphasis on the millennial generation, an analysis of giving and volunteer trends for youngsters from the panel study (COPPS) 1970s, 80s and 90s, personal interviews and case studies to triangulate the observations in the panel study and literature to gain insight into the attitudes and behaviors of millennial volunteers and donors.

Personal Info:

Amy Conrad Warner currently serves as the IUPUI Vice Chancellor for External Affairs with direct contact with alumni, donors, civic leaders and college aged students. Serving over 20 years in the Central Indiana marketplace, Warner has provided leadership to boards of governors of arts organizations, information technology, business development and educational enterprises. In addition to her community service, Warner served as the Executive Director of the Indiana Commission on Community Service to launch AmeriCorps programs in Indiana and oversee civic engagement grant-making opportunities. This experience in working with college students and the nonprofit sector, provides first-hand observations of the challenges and opportunities nonprofit volunteers and executives face in engaging Millenials in the leadership and fund development of the nonprofit sector. Warner earned an undergraduate degree in Telecommunications from Indiana University Bloomington and a master’s degree in New Media in the IU School of Informatics at IUPUI.