TRADITIONS Alumni newsletter for the IU Department of Folklore & Ethnomusicology

SUMMER 2010 { IN THIS ISSUE: Retirements, New faculty, Awards, Meet our new staff, Unit updates, Traditional Arts Indiana, IU/OSU conference, Looking ahead, New web site, and alumni spotlights



MBIRA QUEENS

Folklore & Ethnomusicology students Angela Scharfenberger, Sheasby Matiure, Meghan Reef, and Abby Byers. Read more about what's going on in the department on page 4.

Retirement reflections



trange to say, my time at IU has spanned 45 years. I enrolled at IU as a freshman in 1965 but left after a year, finding the big classes (of the sort I was later asked to teach) simply too big. I also switched from being a future biochemist to being an English major. Later I came back to IU to earn my MA and PhD in Folklore, serving

along with Janet Gilmore as Richard Dorson's editorial assistant for the journal. That assistantship, courses with Linda Dégh, Henry Glassie, and Warren Roberts, and, of course, interactions with my fellow folklore students were the highlights of my four years of grad school.

In 1975 I joined the English Department at the University of Houston and then, in 1979, I returned to teach at IU. Here I have enjoyed the best colleagues one could possibly hope for and especially the consistently outstanding students who have made my teaching experience such a pleasure. My plan in retirement is to make music and write. The music? Some

More news on page 2 and 3 of this issue: New faculty and staff members join our team and a new department chair takes the reins.

songwriting, some covers. The writing? Not exactly scholarly: hint, something to do with Handel and a little self-help and folklore for good measure. Be brave and good!

Sandra Dolby



y 35-year career at IU was rich and fulfilling, changing its nature over time as departmental goals and my personal research interests evolved. The diverse menu of special projects resulted in departmental conferences and publication, outreach, and research activities that often were locally,

nationally, and internationally significant. A particular joy for me was consistent participation of folklore graduate students — the inspiring heart of this department — as researchers and assistants. Working with colleagues to establish Traditional Arts Indiana (TAI) and watching it flourish has been a most gratifying recent development. Given the intelligence, warmth, humor, and energy of the young faculty, it is good to know that folklore and ethnomusicology at IU will prosper.

My research on Latvian diaspora will continue and might even be consolidated in a full-length manuscript for the growing number of young Baltic scholars interested in this field. But new projects are also on the horizon and unexpected ones are almost too rapidly falling into my lap. With family in the Northwest, in Sao Paulo, and in Latvia, and with many other enticing places beckoning, my husband Bruce and I plan to travel a lot. Over the past months, one word has repeatedly come to mind to describe how I feel about this phase of my life. Gleeful.

Introductions

e're excited to welcome **Diane Goldstein** to our department this fall as professor of folklore. She comes to us from the Memorial University of Newfoundland and is a leader in the discipline of folklore studies. As of Aug. 1, **John McDowell** returns for a two-year appointment as chair of the department. He takes the helm from **Jason Jackson**, who steered the ship with great success during his tenure.

Other recent additions to the department include Assistant Professor of Ethnomusicology **Javier F. León**, Assistant Professor of Ethnomusicology **David McDonald**, and Assistant Professor of Folklore **Michael Dylan Foster**. For more information and multimedia profiles, see *indiana.edu/~folklore/people*.







From left:Foster, McDonald (with son Seamus), and León

More new team members

The office is a really great environment. ...
We want to be as helpful as possible to faculty and students. The conference in Nashville will help us see how the AFS meeting runs, so when



SHERI SHERRILL

it's in Bloomington we can be a part of that. It's good for us, as the staff of a folklore department, to see scholarly pursuits outside of campus."

MEET OUR NEW STAFF

- MICHELLE BRIGHT: Account Associate (Monthly Account Reports, Work Study, Payroll, Hiring)
- KRYSTIE HERNDON: Undergraduate Academic Advisor
- MICHELLE MELHOUSE: Graduate Recorder (Student Records, Admissions)
- **CHRIS ROUSH:** Special Projects & Public Relations (TAI, Scheduling, Website, PR)
- SHERI SHERRILL: Fiscal Officer/Office Manager (Office Management, AI/GA Appointments, Faculty Reports, Grants)

Awards

For more details on these awards, visit indiana.edu/~folklore.

JUDAH COHEN contributed an essay to the edited book Rethinking European Jewish History, which won the 2009 National Jewish Book Award in the anthologies and collections category.

MICHAEL DYLAN FOSTER won the 2009 Chicago Folklore Prize for his book *Pandemonium and Parade:*Japanese Monsters and the Culture of Yôkai.

HENRY GLASSIE was awarded the Charles Homer Haskins Prize for Lifetime Achievement in the Humanities given by the American Council of Learned Societies.

PORTIA MAULTSBY was given the 2009 Distinguished Faculty Award in the College of Arts and Sciences.

PRAVINA SHUKLA was awarded the Coomaraswamy Book Prize given by the South Asia Council of the Association of Asian Studies for her book *Grace of Four Moons: Dress, Adornment, and the Art of the Body in Modern India.* She also received the Milia Davenport Award from the Costume Society of America.

Student **CLARA HENDERSON** won the IU Esther Kinsley Award for Outstanding Dissertation, while student **STEVE STANZAK** took the IU Esther Kinsley Award for Outstanding MA Thesis.



IU/OSU conference

hree years ago, students from Indiana University and Ohio State University joined forces and established a conference to give papers, learn from keynote speakers, and discuss issues relevant to folklore and ethnomusicology.

"It was basically a conversation between graduate students from IU and OSU," says Sarah Gordon, an IU folklore student who helped organize the conference this year.

"We think of this as a low-key environment, for people to get to know each other."

The event includes panels and discussants, a keynote speaker, posters, and a discussion forum. Faculty members attend the sessions and give feedback. Attendees also enjoy social events such as dinners and coffeehouse meetings.

"The conference has gotten bigger and better each year," faculty member Jason Jackson says. "It enables students to connect and engage in a unique way with other programs. It enables you to sit down and engage in deep conversations with faculty from other universities."

This year's conference, "Contact: The Dynamics of Power and Culture," was held at OSU. "One thing that stood out about this year's conference was the breadth of geographic regions represented," IU ethnomusicology student Matthew Buchbinder says. "We had a Finnish scholar in attendance as well as people all across the United States, including Arizona State University and Eastman School of Music."

Eric Bindler, also an IU ethnomusicology student, enjoyed the atmosphere of the conference. "The papers that I saw were all fascinating and it was great especially to see a lot of presentations about music, both separated in their own panels and integrated in with some of the other themes and topics," he says. "Everyone was very laid back and informal and easy to talk to, but it was also a very professional event as well."

Bindler and Buchbinder are working together to organize next year's conference, which will be at IU. They plan to reach out to other schools and area studies departments.

Anna Batcheller

Home sweet home(s)

Several new spaces have been allocated to support our programs and activities. The most dramatic of these is the use of an early 20th century church at 800 N. Indiana Ave., providing us with much needed space for the world music ensembles. In addition to providing a home for



instrument collections, rehearsals and performances, the former church has also hosted lectures from faculty and visiting folklorists and ethnomusicologists.

{IN NUMBERS}



SINCE 2007:

24 undergraduate degrees, 28 MA degrees, 26 PhDs

2007: 22 active undergraduate majors



2010: 58 active undergraduate majors



From top to bottom: Incoming Folklore & Ethnomusicology graduate students in 2007, 2008, and 2009.

Journal of Folklore Research Reviews

he Journal of Folklore Research Reviews, edited by John McDowell and Bill Hansen, is the exclusive online academic review organ in the fields of folkloristics and ethnomusicology. In January of 2010 we entered our fifth year of operation. Our mission is to publish quality reviews of scholarly works of interest to folklorists and ethnomusicologists, and to distribute these reviews swiftly by sending them directly to the electronic mailboxes of our 900 subscribers located all across the globe. JFRR reviews are permanently stored at indiana.edu/~jofr/reviews.php.

John McDowell

Formal ties to Trickster Press

n the past three years, Folklore and Ethnomusicology Publications Inc. has undergone a major revolution. Consolidating names and functions, Trickster Press has become our operating identity, under which we continue ongoing book projects, with the long-lived *Folklore Forum* as our still-vibrant journal. By this autumn, Trickster will formally incorporate into the Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology, with which it has enjoyed a long rapport. These formal ties are expected to lend continued vibrancy and stability to our organization, but will not interfere with the student-led tradition that Trickster holds dear.

Folklore Forum went online in 2005, and in 2007 it got a site upgrade to folkloreforum.net. Instead of waiting to publish issue-by-issue, this gold open-access journal now publishes with rolling content, which you can add to your RSS feed. Another major leap into the 21st century was digitization of all the back issues of Forum through a productive partnership with the IU Libraries. Now, all issues are available for free in the IU Scholarworks Repository, an online digital archive: https://scholarworks.iu.edu/dspace/handle/2022/3129.

In addition to back issues of *Forum*, Trickster Press has also made some of its out-of-print books available. These include titles like *The Old Traditional Way of Life: Essays in Honor of Warren Roberts* and *Log Buildings of Southern Indiana*.

CONNECT WITH US.







Jam session: Current and former faculty members Richard Bauman, Beverly Stoeltje, John Johnson, and Portia Maultsby listen as John McDowell plays guitar and sings at the 2008 end-of-the-year party.

The Trickster Press business model was also overhauled. Books are now print-on-demand, which frees up Trickster funds and staff energies for focusing on content, and also makes our titles available through Amazon.com. We're still able to sell at a discount to retailers directly from our printer. See indiana. edu/~folkpub for more information.

We're especially excited to have recently published the reprint of *Literary Folkloristics and the Personal Narrative* with a new introduction, by Sandra K. Dolby, and look forward to offering Ruth Stone's long-awaited, renovated *Let the Inside Be Sweet* by the end of this summer.

Kate Schramm

Traditional Arts Indiana

raditional Arts Indiana (TAI) continues to research and present Indiana's folk and traditional arts.

TAI's Rotating Exhibit Program provides traveling exhibitions to libraries and public institutions throughout the state. Last year, this program served more than a million Hoosiers. Similarly, TAI produced "Miami Made: The Creative Lives of Four Miami Women," a small exhibit and school residency with four Miami artists from Northeastern Indiana as part of IU's ArtsWeek events.

Partnerships are essential to TAI; last year TAI partnered with Arts United of Greater Fort Wayne to survey artists in both Steuben and LaGrange counties. This partnership expands TAI's reach to communities and artists underserved by the arts. TAI is continuing this partnership, by providing professional development training for artists and community scholars in the region throughout the 2010 summer.

Jon Kay

Here, faculty and student attendees enjoy a relaxed, performance atmosphere. This coffeehouse is held at Max's Place in Bloomington each fall and spring semester.



Looking ahead

e're excited the American Folklore Society conference is coming back to Bloomington. The last time the conference was held on a university campus was in Bloomington in 1969. The university setting gives the conference a different environment. There are hopes for hosting an ethnomusicology conference at IU further down the line, but those plans are still in the works.

A word from the Annual Meeting Committee Chair Michael Dylan Foster

In October 2011, approximately 700 participants from around the world will join us in Bloomington for the American Folklore Society annual meeting. This is an exciting chance for colleagues and friends to visit IU and also for us to invite the Bloomington community to participate in the intellectual and creative exchanges of folklore and ethnomusicology.

My job as Chair of the Annual Meeting Committee is to coordinate our local planning team to make this into a memorable and innovative conference of lasting value to the Department, to IU, and to folkloristics as a discipline. To complement traditional paper sessions, we hope to introduce alternative presentation and poster formats; we will host preconference workshops that take advantage of IU's unique research facilities; and we have also already secured venues for events and exhibitions to be held before, during and after the meeting.

The planning itself is still in its early stages, but I've been working with a core group of people to get things underway. Pravina Shukla will head up programming, which includes the organization of sessions and events during the conference itself. Jon Kay, Director of Traditional Arts Indiana, will take the lead in coordinating local events—everything from museum exhibits to preconference tours to putting together maps of restaurants. John McDowell will be working with alumni to organize reunion activities; Steve Stuempfle, Executive Director of the Society for Ethnomusicology, has also been lending his expertise to the planning process; and of course, the whole department has been providing invaluable direction and support.

We have also already received a tremendous amount of enthusiastic and productive input from alumni, students, faculty, and other folklorists throughout Indiana—as October 2011 draws closer, we look forward to working together to make this into a stimulating and rewarding experience for all.

SAVE THE DATE:

American Folklore Society Annual Meeting in Bloomington, Oct. 12–15, 2011 To submit information: Write to the IU Alumni Association at 1000 E. 17th St., Bloomington, IN 47408, or share your news with the IUAA online at alumni.indiana.edu/classnotes.

1960s

Joe Hickerson, MA'61, is a folk singer, folk-lorist, archivist, and librarian. He served as librarian and director of the Archive of Folk Song and Culture at the Library of Congress from 1963 to 1998, and currently writes a column for *Sing Out!* magazine. Hickerson co-wrote the folk standard "Where Have All the Flowers Gone?" with Pete Seeger, completing the fourth and fifth verses of the song while he was a graduate student in Bloomington in May 1960. Hickerson lives in Wheaton, Md.

Richard Bauman, MA'62, is a distinguished professor emeritus of folklore and ethnomusicology, communication and culture, and anthropology at IU Bloomington. In the course of his academic career, he has headed two of the country's major folklore programs, first as director of the Center for Intercultural Studies in Folklore and Ethnomusicology at the University of Texas, and later as chair of the Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology at IU Bloomington. Bauman has served as president of the Semiotic Society of America, the Society for Linguistic Anthropology, and the Society of Fellows of the American Folklore Society. Among many other professional activities, he has been chair of the Folklife Advisory Council of the Smithsonian Institution, editor of the Journal of American Folklore, and a member of more than 15 editorial boards. In 2008 he received the Lifetime Scholarly Achievement Award, the highest honor granted by the American Folklore Society. Bauman lives in Bloomington.

Hasan M. El-Shamy, MA'64, PhD'67, is a professor in the Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology, the Department of Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures, and the African Studies Program at IU Bloomington. His areas of academic interest include the folk narrative and the ballad, social structure and religion, mental health in traditional cultures, and psychological approaches and folklore theory. El-Shamy's research and publications have introduced a number of innovative approaches to the study of traditional cultures in general and Arabic communities in particular. His



book, *Religion Among the Folk in Egypt*, was published by Praeger in November 2008. El-Shamy lives in Bloomington.

1970s

William J. Ivey, MA'70, LHD'00, is director of the Curb Center for Art, Enterprise, and Public Policy at Vanderbilt University, an arts-policy research center with offices in Nashville, Tenn., and Washington, D.C. He also directs the Arts Industries Policy Forum, the center's Washington, D.C.based program for senior government staff. Ivey serves as senior consultant to Leadership Music, a music industry professional development program, and is immediate past-president of the American Folklore Society. He served as team leader for arts and humanities on the Barack Obama presidential transition team and was chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts from 1998 to 2001, where he received credit for restoring confidence in the NEA after many years of controversy and budget cuts. Ivey has spoken and written extensively on the arts, and his book, Arts, Inc.: How Greed and Neglect Have Destroyed Our Cultural Rights, has been described as "not just a vital book about the arts but a vital book about democracy." He received an honorary doctorate from IU when he was the keynote speaker at the re-dedication of the IU Auditorium on the Bloomington campus in 2000. Ivey lives in Nashville.

Nancy "Nan" Cassell McEntire, MA'70, PhD'90, was in Ireland from January to June as a Fulbright Scholar in ethno**FLASHBACK:** Richard Dorson (polka-dot tie), Mary David (background), Elizabeth Brandon (glasses), Ken Goldstein (glasses) at the 'Seminar on State Folklore Societies' in the Folklore Office during the 1950s.

musicology, sponsored by the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance at the University of Limerick. The focus of her research was traditional tune acquisition in the Shannon region. McEntire is an associate professor in the Department of English at Indiana State University in Terre Haute, Ind. She lives in Terre Haute.

Elizabeth "Libby" Tucker, PhD'77, is a professor of English at the State University of New York at Binghamton. She is the author of Children's Folklore: A Handbook, published by Greenwood Press in 2008 and Haunted Halls: Ghostlore of American College Campuses, published by the University Press of Mississippi in 2007. Tucker serves as the editor of Children's Folklore Review, published by the children's folklore section of the American Folklore Society, and of FOAFtale News, the newsletter of the International Society for Contemporary Legend Research, which studies modern and urban legends. She lives in Vestal, N.Y.

Susanne Smith Ridlen, MA'78, PhD'92, of Logansport, Ind., is chairwoman of the board of directors of the President Benjamin Harrison Foundation in Indianapolis. She is also a director of the Logansport Savings and Loan Association.

1980s

Simon J. Bronner, PhD'81, is the editor of Jews At Home: The Domestication of Identity, published in May by Littman. The book includes the Raphael Patai Prize-winning essay by IU doctoral student Gabrielle Berlinger. The Raphael Patai Prize honors the eminent folklorist and ethnologist Raphael Patai (1910-1996), and is awarded for the best unpublished essay in Jewish folklore and ethnology by a student. Bronner is also the author of Greater Harrisburg's Jewish Community, published by Arcadia in July. Distinguished University Professor of American studies and folklore at Pennsylvania State University in Harrisburg, Bronner is lead scholar of the campus's Holocaust and Jewish Studies Center. He is author and editor of more than 25 books, including the Encyclopedia of American Folklife (2006), Following Tradition: Folklore in the Discourse of American Culture (1998), and Manly Traditions: The Folk Roots of American Masculinities (2005). Bronner edits the Material Worlds series for the University Press of Kentucky and has published on Jewish cultural studies in the Journal of Modern Jewish Studies, Jewish History, Yiddish, Markers, and Chuliyot: Journal of Yiddish Literature. As well as editing the Littman Library's Jewish Cultural Studies series, he leads the Jewish Folklore and Ethnology section of the American Folklore Society. Bronner has received the Mary Turpie Prize from the American Studies Association and the Wayland D. Hand Prize and Peter and Iona Opie Prize from the American Folklore Society for his scholarship and educational leadership. He lives in Harrisburg.

Elaine J. Lawless, PhD'82, is co-author (with M. Heather Carver) of *Troubling Violence: A Performance Project*, published by the University Press of Mississippi. The book traces the creative development of a performance troupe that presents real-life narratives as a means of heightening social awareness and dialogue about

intimate partner violence. The authors highlight the importance of communicating about violence in everyday life while offering practical lessons in how to create performance projects for scholars and lay audiences. Lawless is a professor of English at the University of Missouri in Columbia. The author of several books, including Women Escaping Violence: Empowerment through Narrative, she is president of the American Folklore Society. Lawless lives in Columbia.

Gloria J. Gibson, PhD'87, was named executive vice president and provost of the University of Northern Iowa on July 1, 2009. She was formerly the dean of the College of Humanities & Social Sciences and professor in the Department of English, Folklore, and Ethnomusicology at Arkansas State University. The executive vice president and provost at UNI provides vision for academic excellence while guiding the academic planning and assessment of university academic programs. Reporting to the president, the executive vice president and provost also provides administrative leadership and organization for all the academic components of the university.

Pauline Adema, MA'89, is the author of Garlic Capital of the World: Gilroy, Garlic, and the Making of a Festive Foodscape, published by the University Press of Mississippi. The book examines how Gilroy, Calif., successfully transformed a negative association with the pungent food item and turned it into a highly successful tourism and marketing campaign. Adema is the staff folklorist for the Dutchess County Arts Council in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. She also a culinary anthropologist and consultant who teaches at the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, N.Y.

1990s

Harris M. Berger, MA'91, PhD'95, is the author of Stance: Ideas about Emotion, Style, and Meaning for Study of Expressive Culture, published by Wesleyan University Press in February. The book presents new theories for looking at expressive forms in music, folklore, and popular culture and provides fresh insights on the politics of culture, revealing the connections between expressive practices and larger social forces. Berger is associate professor of music and performance studies at Texas A&M University in College Station. He is also the author of Metal, Rock, and Jazz: Perception and the Phenomenology of Musical Experience, and the co-author of Identity and Everyday Life: Essays in the Study of Folklore, Music, and Popular Culture. Berger was recently an editor of the Journal of American Folklore, and is part of the advisory board

country music before an IU dorm friend introduced him to it. He also credits a "History of Rock and Roll" class with IU Jacobs School of Music professor **Andy Hollinden**, BM'88, MM'93, for exposing him to a variety of musical styles. Wolak is currently the Los Angeles correspondent for *Slam*, Austria's largest rock magazine. He can be reached at peterwolak@gmail.com.

2000s

Gregory A. Hansen, PhD'01, recently co-wrote a successful grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to support the Arkansas Folklife Program at Arkansas State University. He also traveled to Aberdeen,



evin O. Mooney/Indiana Al

WELL WISHES: A student walks past Bloomington's Rose Well House, one of many sources of folklore on campus.

for the working group Music as Performance. He lives in Bryan, Texas.

Los Angeles-based writer and music historian Peter N. Wolak, BA'99, recently served as executive producer on an album by the legendary Texas fiddle player Johnny Gimble. The record, Celebrating With Friends, released by CMH Records in February, features guest performances by Country Music Hall of Famers Merle Haggard, Willie Nelson, and Vince Gill. Gimble has worked as a session player with artists as diverse as Paul McCartney and Carrie Underwood. Wolak claims he rarely listened to

Scotland, during the past summer to present a paper at the North Atlantic Fiddle Convention and will have forthcoming publications from his research on fiddling and storytelling traditions in Florida. Hansen was recently awarded tenure and promoted to associate professor of folklore and English at Arkansas State University. His book, *A Florida Fiddler: The Life and Times of Richard Seaman*, was published by the University of Alabama Press.

Caitlin N. Hunter, MA/MLS'08, is a supervisory librarian at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. She lives in Culpeper, Va.

Danielle L. Trynoski, BA'08, of Sugar Grove, Ill., is pursuing a master of arts degree in medieval archaeology at the University of York, England.



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TRADITIONS

FOLKLORE & ETHNOMUSICOLOGY

Vol. 20 Summer 2010 • This newsletter is published by the Indiana University Alumni Association, in cooperation with the Department of Folkore and the College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Association, to encourage alumni interest in and support for Indiana University. It is paid for in part by dues-paying memebrs of the IUAA. For activities and membership information, call (800) 824-3044 or send e-mail to iualumni@indiana.edu.

Department of Folklore & Ethnomusicology

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Editors

Anna Batcheller & Chris Roush

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Assistant Dean for Advancement Tom Recker

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Virgil T. DeVault Alumni Center 1000 East 17th Street Bloomington, Indiana 47408-1521

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FOLKLORE ALUMNI: What's new with you?

The IU Alumni Association is charged with maintaining records for all IU alumni. Please print as much of the following information as you wish. Updates are used as class notes and help keep IU's alumni records accurate and up to date. Attach additional pages if necessary. Mail to the address above, or fax to (812) 855-8266. To update online, visit alumni. indiana edu/directory

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