

EMERITI HOUSE

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

Richard E. Stryker, Director

October 2007

This is the first annual report on IU's Emeriti House, intended to inform interested faculty and administrators about the activities and development of Emeriti House over the preceding academic year. Given that this is the first report, some background is in order.

### Origins of Emeriti House

Emeriti House was inaugurated in January 2004, at the initiative of the Dean of the Faculties and Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Moya Andrews, and her Associate Dean, Susan Eklund. Sue had developed and promoted the idea for a number of years, emerging from her research on gerontology and lifelong learning as Director of IU's Center on Aging and the Aged; Moya made it an administrative priority. Both are now Professors Emeritae and served as Founding Co-Directors until late 2005, when Professor Emeritus Richard Stryker was appointed Director.

### Committees

During its gestation, Emeriti House (EH) was guided by a Governance Committee, which set forth the basic structures and policies for the House. This committee then disbanded and was replaced by three standing committees -- House, Program, Outreach -- and an Oversight (now Executive) Committee. [See addendum for committee memberships.]

The Executive Committee is chaired by the Director and includes five other emeritus faculty members, appointed by the Dean of the Faculties, and the chairs of the three standing committees. Meeting each semester, its responsibilities are to support the mission of EH; to serve as an advisory committee to the Dean; to review and make recommendations regarding administrative structure and governance; and to deal with issues that do not fall under the purview of the standing committees.

The House Committee, chaired by Dick Carr, developed the EH operating guidelines and approves all equipment, furnishings and changes in House rules. The Outreach Committee, chaired by Joe Miller, seeks to link the House and emeriti in general to the larger university and town communities, including volunteering, mentoring and hosting. The Program Committee, chaired by Jerry Chertkoff, has become central to the mission of the House and meets monthly during the academic year; it organizes and promotes the regular series of events which take place at EH.

### Mission

The mission of Emeriti House is “to provide an environment to support the continuation of the intellectual and creative activities of retired faculty, to help maintain their connections with the University, and to encourage the use of their talents as a continuing resource for the University.” The House is available to and welcomes all emeritus faculty and librarians of Indiana University, including their widows and widowers, spouses, partners and guests. The intention is to be inclusive of IU’s retired academic community.

Academic and cultural activities are the highest priority for the use of House facilities and services, along with personal use by individual emeriti for their professional and academic projects. Social interaction is also considered an important purpose.

### Funding and Staffing

Funding for Emeriti House has come from several sources, in addition to private gifts. The Dean of the Faculties Office (DOF) funded initial renovations to the House, and the IU Foundation donated support for furnishings.

The Office of the Bloomington Chancellor/Provost provides a modest but critical amount of annual base funding; and the Dean of the Faculties Office was given a line to cover S&E expenses for the House, as well as personnel lines for a full-time “coordinator” (house manager) and a part-time administrative assistant. Budget cuts at the end of 2004-05 eliminated the coordinator position, but it was replaced by two half-time positions; the responsibilities of the temporary administrative assistant were absorbed by a new staff member, Nat McKamey, who serves as liaison between EH and DOF.

### Collaborations

Emeriti House has collaborated with offices, programs, schools and institutes across campus in an effort to keep emeriti informed about trends, activities and people at IU and to host visitors, especially from the Institute for Advanced Study and the Patten Lecturers Program. EH also seeks to collaborate with the IU Annuitants Association, which includes both retired faculty and senior staff who are annuitants of TIAA-CREF; the University Club; and residents of three local retirement communities. The leadership of EH, Annuitants and University Club are all committed to enhancing their collaborative efforts, and a meeting to pursue that goal took place in fall 2007.

### New furnishings and equipment

In summer 2007, EH purchased a new (reconditioned) upright Yamaha piano, which should significantly improve the music scene at the House. An inaugural program by Gary Wittlich (with Dave Bruker on bass) took place on August 30, devoted to the music of Hoagy Carmichael and Cole Porter.

In addition, an elegant bookcase has been purchased, giving the living room a more academic appearance and making it possible to display a modest range of selected books and magazines of relevance to emeriti, including the IU Retirement Biographies. The bookcase will be dedicated this coming year in honor of Moya Andrews and Sue Eklund. The House Committee will serve as our Library Committee. A second bookcase for storage of the Oral History Project tapes has also been added. In fall 2006, a new bulletin board and a second coat rack were installed.

### Programs (2004-06)

During its first two academic years of operation (2004-05, 2005-06), over 50 programs took place at Emeriti House. The programs fell into six primary categories: (1) research and creative activities of emeriti (monthly); (2) musical events (both chamber and jazz performances); (3) institutional perspectives on IU (e.g., the new directors of the Kinsey Institute, IU Press, Lilly Library; University Archives; Oral History Projects; the authorized biographer of Herman B Wells); (4) Institute for Advanced Study and International Programs visitors; (5) book discussions with authors; and (6) other (outreach, international films, food and culture).

The House also hosted a half dozen receptions. Attendance was estimated at nearly 800 per year, including receptions.

### Programs (2006-07)

During the 2006-07 academic year, Emeriti House hosted a total of 28 formal programs, a somewhat larger number than either of the two previous years, two formal receptions and a workshop, with a total attendance count of 865.

Research presentations by retired faculty continued apace, with topics ranging from the International Society for the Study of Time (Lewis Rowell) to Stem Cells and Antibiotics (George Malacinski and Gene Weinberg), Misleading Statistical Tests (David Parkhurst), the Hubble Space Telescope (Hollis Johnson), Thonis the Classical Courtesan (Bill Hansen), EU Higher Education Reforms (Stryker), and a panel of four moderated by Nino Cocchiarella on the Origins of the Universe.

Musical topics, if not performances, were well represented by Malcolm Brown on the music of Shostakovich and by Peter Jacobi on reviewing music locally. The addition of a piano at the House will add musical sounds more regularly to our repertoire. A new series on health and aging began with presentations on hearing, healthy cognitive aging, and dental implants.

Emeriti House welcomed a number of distinguished visitors on campus through the Patten Lecturerships and the Institute of Advanced Study, including the Nobel prize winning economist, Amartya Sen (Harvard), the historian, Fritz Stern (Columbia), the political scientist, Peter Katzenstein (Cornell), and an international lawyer, Wallace Baker (Paris).

A new series was begun on outreach service by distinguished emeriti. Violet Taliaferro, a retired judge in the county juvenile court system, spoke on her long and distinguished judicial career and the special problems inherent in helping young people in trouble. Dr. Anthony Pizzo, Emeritus Professor of Medical Sciences, reflected on city government, highlighting his successful effort to introduce a smoking ban in restaurants in Bloomington. George Smerk, Emeritus Professor of Transportation, spoke on the history of the South Shore Railroad in Northern Indiana. Don Granbois, Emeritus Professor of Marketing, presented the impressive accomplishments of Bloomington Restorations in saving a number of old houses in Monroe County.

We hosted several theatre programs: highlights from the local Jewish Theatre's production of Another Antigone, a talk by the Director of the Cardinal Stage Company, and a dramatic Black American narrative (acted by Gladys DeVane).

Emeriti House also co-sponsored several productions at the Cardinal Theatre, which offered reduced price tickets to emeriti.

In addition, there were highly popular presentations on life writing (John Woodcock), heralding a new series for Fall 2007; human emotions through sculpture (Helga Keller); a tapas demonstration (Graciella Bitetti); protecting your computer (Gerald Marker); gardening with perennials in Bloomington (Moya Andrews), and many others. For a complete listing, see our website:

<http://www.indiana.edu/~emeriti/>.

### Special Projects

The faculty Oral History Project, which collects histories of emeritus faculty on video and audiotapes, continued into its third year under the direction of Don Gray. He and his collaborators have now collected over 100 videotaped interviews of retired IU faculty and administrators, and a long list of further interviews is scheduled. With the support of the Dean of the Faculties Office and contributions by Don Gray from his own research funds, transcriptions of the interviews are being prepared; possible uses and archiving of the tapes and of the transcriptions remain to be determined.

The fifth annual Emeriti House Art Exhibit was held in April 2007, with a large reception on the opening evening. The event featured 47 highly varied and impressive photographs by emeriti, annuitants and spouses. Audrey Heller and John Woodcock served as co-chairs of the Exhibit's planning committee.

Emeriti House organized a special panel on “Thinking About Retirement: What Do Retired Academics Do?” at the University Club in March 2007, modeled on an earlier presentation organized by Sue Eklund eight years ago. Discussion centered on the content of retirement life among emeriti, how or if they are still connected to the university and to their professions, their new discoveries and priorities. The session was moderated by Richard Stryker, and panelists included Gene Weinberg (Biology), Don Gray (English), Allen Winold (Music), Moya Andrews (Speech and Hearing), Dick Carr (French), and Jerry Chertkoff (Psychology).

The new 2006 cohort of emeriti was welcomed to Emeriti House at a reception in November 2006. A series of noon brown bag lunch discussions at the House began in January 2007, and these have continued weekly or bi-weekly since.

The Director initiated a proposal for all IU-Bloomington emeriti to receive free Bloomington Transit bus passes on request. Parking Operations restricted parking in the Atwater and other campus parking garages to those with “A” (or “ARE”) parking decals, eliminating hourly (student) parking. These measures should ease bus and car access to Emeriti House -- at least once the new parking garage on Atwater is completed!

### Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education

Indiana University was a founding member of the national Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education (AROHE), which advocates for and serves retired faculty and staff in higher education. The first meeting was held in Bloomington in October 2002, where IU was represented by Sue Eklund and Linda Pearson, her administrative assistant. At the second conference in Nashville, TN in 2004, Pearson and Stryker, then Program Chair, made a joint presentation on the nascent EH.

In October 2006, Chertkoff and Miller (chairs, respectively, of the Program and Outreach Committees) joined Stryker on a panel at the third conference in Tempe, AZ, “From Start-Up to Active Programming.” They returned with new ideas and initiatives to increase the visibility of Emeriti House.

### Forthcoming Events

In addition to the program inaugurating Emeriti House’s new piano, the fall 2007 schedule promises to be the most active and diverse yet, including two Patten lecturers, a life-writing workshop, a private curator-guided tour of a current IU Art Museum exhibit, presentations on aging eyes, political developments in Cuba and Nicaragua, the universe and the atom, New York film, local homelessness, the IU-Kenya medical sciences partnership, African-Americans in theatre posters, a trombone choir, etc.

Emeriti House has just begun.

### Emeriti House Committees (2007)

#### **Executive Committee**

Richard Stryker (chair)

Moya Andrews

Richard Carr (House Committee)

Jerome Chertkoff (Program Committee)

Donald Gray

Robert Meier

Keith Michael

Joseph Miller (Outreach Committee)

Joseph Waldman

**Program Committee**

Jerome Chertkoff (chair)  
Ernest Bernhardt-Kabisch  
Gilbert Clark  
Donald Gray  
Audrey Heller  
George Malacinski  
Joseph Miller  
Dominic Spera  
Eugene Weinberg  
Alan Winold

**House Committee**

Richard Carr (chair)  
Marian Shaaban

**Outreach Committee**

Joseph Miller (chair)  
Donald Granbois  
Paul Kuznets  
Donald Lichtenberg

**Oral History Project**

Donald Gray

**Computer Advisor/Instructor**

Gerald Marker

**Dean of Faculties Staff**

Natalie McKamey (Liaison to Emeriti House)  
Marilyn Gregory (Budget Officer)  
Tadewos Assebework (Emeriti House staff)  
Julie Pointer (Emeriti House staff)

## **Governance Committee (2004)**

Edgar Williams (chair)

Donald Agostino

Richard Carr (House committee)

Pat Grossman (House committee)

Susan Eklund

Elizabeth Lion (Outreach committee)

Gerald Marker (Computer support committee)

Mary Louise Remley

John Ryan

Myrtle Scott (Oral History committee)

Lee Suttner

Eugene Weinberg (Program committee)

York Willbern

Linda Pearson (DOF Liaison)

Ellen Pettay (EH Coordinator)