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.
This is the fifth annual report on IU’s Emeriti House, intended to inform interested faculty, administrators and staff about the development of and activities at Emeriti House. The current report covers the 2011-2012 academic year. For an overview of Emeriti House, its founding in 2004, and first seven years of activity, see the previous four reports on our website: www.indiana.edu/~emeriti/, where you may also find regularly updated information about the House and its events (but see the note below about coming changes to the website).

**Building and Grounds**

As reported last year, the construction of a new Walkway to Emeriti House was completed in the summer of 2011, greatly improving the ease and safety of access to the house. Subsequently, responsibility for our building and grounds was transferred to the IU Real Estate Office, which led to a flurry of activity in summer 2012. The old garage at the back of the property was partly demolished, repaired and repainted. It could not be removed completely since the wall structure partly supports the surrounding ground area, rear sidewalk and ramp to the house. But the remaining shell is far less unsightly and will permit some additional parking. New dusk to dawn lighting has been installed by the garage.

Equally important, the mass of vegetation (“the jungle”) between the garage and the house has been removed, along with the dilapidated fencing, and the grounds have been cleaned up with tree and shrub trimming, weed removal, new plantings, mulching and general maintenance. The stone benches have been power cleaned and a new elegant sign for Emeriti House has been installed in front. More recently, the uneven stepping and patio stones have been removed, now serving as drainage to the west of the house. More level, safer walking access will be provided with a flat mulched path. This new attention to the appearance and safety of our setting is further evidence of how much Emeriti House is valued at IU.
Special thanks to Steve Riggins of the IU Real Estate Office and Mike Girvin of Campus Division for leading the grounds improvement effort.

Following the guidelines of last year’s “green audit” for Emeriti House, the area where water was entering the house was repaired, and a number of other maintenance issues were addressed. More energy efficient lighting remains on the agenda, as is the recycling of some old computers. Still pending is our request that the city post a "Slow: Pedestrian Crossing" sign on Atwater Avenue just before the left turn onto Faculty Lane, and then paint crossing hashmarks at the point where pedestrians exit the garage and go towards the Walkway.

Programs

Weekly or even twice weekly programs at Emeriti House throughout the academic year continue to showcase the diverse talents of IU’s retired faculty and the persuasiveness of our Program Committee, again led so conscientiously by Joe Miller, in mobilizing them. Over the past eight years, Emeriti House has organized and hosted a growing number of events: c. 25 during 2004-05 and 2005-06, 30 in 2006-07, 40 or more from 2007-08 through 2010-11, and 50 in 2011-12.

Attendance by emeriti and their guests at these events has grown from c. 750-850 annually in the first three years, to over 900 in 2007-08, almost 1250 in 2009-10 and 2010-11, then down somewhat to just over 1100 in 2011-12. These numbers are only estimates as many guests do not sign in, but the rough totals are persuasive. We scheduled more events last year with small audiences (e.g., the poetry series and the life-writing workshops), which are, nevertheless, highly valued; and more off-site programs (e.g., the jazz classics and IU Cinema series), where the emeriti segment of the audience had to be estimated.

Events which attracted the largest audiences were presentations on the sciences, travel, music and politics, and, of course, special receptions. Notable among those with light attendance were appearances by the
Patten and other external lecturers, perhaps because those most interested in their topics attended the formal lectures and not the EH sessions. The quality and diversity of programming remain remarkable and are a tribute to the vitality of our enterprise.

Presentations of continuing research by (mostly) retired IU faculty are an important focus of EH programming, especially in the sciences: Richard Durisen (Astronomy) explained “Exoplanets: The Plurality of Worlds”; a panel of biologists (David Dilcher, Milton Taylor and George Malacinski) reviewed “Cutting Edge Research in Modern Biology”; and Bruce Martin (Medical Sciences) talked about “Appetite Regulation and How it Changes as We Age.” From other disciplines, Consuelo Lopez-Morillas (Spanish) explored “Secret Muslims of the Spanish Renaissance”; Sandra Dolby (Folklore) offered a program on “Personal Philosophies, Self-Help Books and American Song Lyrics”; and Marjorie Hershey (still active, Political Science) previewed “The Presidential Race.”

We hosted a good number of creative activities: Eva Legene (Music) discussed and performed a program on “J.S. Bach and the Expression of Emotion”; Peter Ellefson (active, Music) led his prize-winning IU Trombone Quartet; Mimi Zweig (active, Music) brought a group of her young violin virtuosi to perform; Tom Hustad (Business) continued his series of film sessions on Jazz Classics; and several local artists performed -- Steve Pollitt with “Meditations and Inventions for Exotic Instruments”; Janiece Jaffe and Curtis Cantwell Jackson with a voice and guitar program.

Poetry readings and discussions expanded to a series of four programs with Catherine Bowman (active, English) and Don Gray (English). Jon Vickers, Director of the IU Cinema, introduced this new campus institution. The Jewish Theatre of Bloomington, organized by Audrey Heller (Speech and Hearing), presented a scene from a forthcoming production. Murray McGibbon (active, Theatre and Drama) was interviewed by Richard Burke (Telecommunications) on “Just What is it that a Director Does?” Edwardo Rhodes (SPEA) gave a demonstration
of “Cake Baking and Decorating.” Travel and culture programs included two by John Woodcock (English) and his wife, Peggy, on “Egyptian Revolutionary Murals” and “Egypt—History in the Making, the Arab Spring”; and Elsa Harik (local author) on “Palestinian Culture: Myths and Realities.”

The Fall 2011 College of Arts & Sciences “themester” on War and Peace was the focus of three special film showings and discussions led by Jim Naremore (Communications and Culture), Nick Cullather (active, History), and Anthony Arnove. In addition, George Malacinski organized a panel discussion on the topic with Don Lichtenberg (Physics) and Edward Linenthal (active, History).

**Institutional and social issues at IU and in Bloomington** were highlighted in five programs: Bruce Jaffee and Bill Perkins (Business) provided “Historical Perspectives on IU/Big 10 Athletics”; Chris Sturbaum (Bloomington City Council) discussed “Issues in the Upcoming Local Election”; a panel led by Ken Heller (Psychology), Reverend Bill Breeden (Unitarian Church) and Forrest Gilmore (Director, Shalom Center) addressed “Homelessness in Bloomington”; Stephanie Solomon from Mother Hubbard’s Cupboard talked about the local “Food Policy Council”; and Paul Newman (Linguistics) challenged the policy on “Mandatory Retirement at IU.”

John Woodcock led nine more of his now well established **Life-Writing workshops**, bringing the total to 35 since their inception five years ago, where emeriti present projects drawing upon their life histories. John reports that people keep coming and seem to be having a good time. I think it helps that the format is extremely open. Attendees can participate at any level they choose, from just listening to reading their work and asking for comments. The project has attracted people who have interesting stories to tell and who are also eager and sympathetic listeners. There is a lot of friendly laughter among these very intelligent people from different academic worlds...and there are sometimes tears. It’s a very good mix.
Emeriti House hosted a number of distinguished visitors to IU. Two Patten lecturers appeared: Charles Hill (Yale), a foreign policy scholar and career foreign service officer; and Peter Galison (Harvard), a former MacArthur fellow, physicist and historian of science; and one Branigin lecturer from the Institute for Advanced Study: Geremie Barmé (Australian National University), a specialist on China in the world and its role in war and peace in East Asia. Finally, the Director of the Iracambi Rainforest Research Center in Brazil, Binka Le Breton, discussed “Rainforest: Use it or Lose it.”

Eklund Honorary Lectureship

Thanks to a continuing grant from an anonymous donor and with additional support from the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs and the School of Public Health, Emeriti House sponsored the Fourth Annual Susan J. Eklund Honorary Lectureship in Fall 2011. The lecturer was Harry (Rick) Moody, former Director of Academic Affairs at AARP, former Chairman of the Board of Elderhostel, and Senior Associate with the International Longevity Center—USA. His public lecture, “The Human Spirit and Creativity Across the Lifespan,” was particularly engaging, followed by a discussion at Emeriti House.

Receptions

In addition to the regular receptions at Emeriti House following each of our presentations, we held a reception for our Eklund Lecturer, attended also by Sue Eklund and Myrtle Scott (Education), and organized a special Fall event to honor the new emeriti cohort of 2011, introducing them to the House and its activities. For the fifth consecutive year, George Malacinski and Tine Lindemann hosted a holiday party in December, and Peter Bailey, our resident British Canadian emeritus historian contributed outstanding piano accompaniment. Over an even longer period, special Provost’s receptions continue to be held each
semester to honor IU’s emeriti, one for all emeriti and one for the newest cohort, which demonstrate continuing commitment to retired faculty.

**Annual Art Exhibit**

The tenth annual Emeriti House Art Exhibit, in partnership with the IU Retirees Association (IURA) was held throughout May 2012, with a large opening reception on May 4, to coincide with the 2nd Annual City of Bloomington Creative Aging Festival. The event featured 41 diverse mixed media works (pottery, woodwork, stone sculpture, watercolors, oils, collages and, of course, photography) by 26 retired faculty, professional staff members and their spouses. Jerry Chertkoff again served as chair of the Exhibit’s planning committee. The continuing “Emeriti House Gallery,” which began in 2008, features a smaller, rotating number of works from the Exhibit displayed in the House throughout the academic year. The Exhibit enjoys continued support from the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs and the IURA.

**Other**

The Emeriti House Website is being reconstructed under the leadership of a team led by Nancy Webber in the IU Communications Office. The new site will conform to that developed for the Provost’s Office and should be completed and ready to share by late 2012 or early 2013.

The Outreach Committee, chaired by Bob Meier, continues to build its Volunteer Opportunities link for the EH webpage. There are currently nine organizations listed, and more to add in the near future, especially once our new website is operational. In order to promote volunteering among emeriti, a couple of programs on local homelessness and hunger were presented last year, as noted above. In October 2012, Nancy Richman, Executive Director, Volunteers in Medicine Clinic of Monroe County, and Elizabeth “Bet” Savich, Director, City of Bloomington Volunteer Network, presented a program on their respective organizations.
The Oral History Project, led by Don Gray, continues its work of interviewing and transcribing a trove of emeriti interviews. Further information on this effort will be included in next year’s report.

The fifth biennial conference of AROHE, the national Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education, was held in October 2012 at Chapel Hill, N.C. Bob Meier attended to represent EH.

This report can only highlight the many and varied activities of IU’s emeritus faculty and librarians over the past year. In addition to the projects and events linked to EH, our emeriti taught courses at IU and elsewhere, gave lectures around the world, continued research in their fields, served as docents at the Art Museum, advisors to the Individualized Major Program, interviewers of Wells Scholars applicants, Student Advocates, and volunteers for a wide range of agencies and forums across Bloomington, IU and beyond. They are a vital and continuing resource for this university.

Emeriti House is now 8½ years old, and I have been privileged to serve as its Director for almost seven of those years. Thanks again to Nat McKamey, Emeriti House Coordinator, over the past six years, who provides daily TLC and commitment to our enterprise; and to Tom Gieryn, Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs, and Lauren Robel, the new Provost, who provide valued support for IU’s emeriti and their House.
Emeriti House Committees (2011-12)

Advisory Board
Dick Stryker (Director of Emeriti House)
Dick Carr
Jerry Chertkoff (Art Exhibit Committee)
Don Gray (Oral History Project)
Ken Gros Louis
Bill McGregor
Bob Meier (Outreach Committee)
Joe Miller (Program Committee)
Pat Riesenman (House Committee)
John Woodcock (Life Writing Project)

Program Committee
Joe Miller (chair)
Bob Arnow
Laura Ginger
Mary Goetze
Consuelo Lopez-Morillas
George Malacinski
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Art Exhibit Committee
Jerry Chertkoff (chair)
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Bob Ensman
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B.J. Irvine
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House Committee
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