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 sixth 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 2012-2013 academic year. For an overview of Emeriti House, its founding in 2004, and first eight years of activity, see the previous five reports on our new website: www.indiana.edu/~emeriti/, where you may also find regularly updated information about the House and its events.

**Programs**

Regular programs at Emeriti House throughout the academic year showcase the diverse talents and interests of IU’s retired faculty. Our Program Committee, led for the past four years by Joe Miller, has been consistently imaginative in finding and persuading colleagues to appear before us, as both new and repeat performers. Over the past nine years, Emeriti House has organized and hosted a growing number of events: 25-30 from 2004-05 through 2006-07, 40-45 from 2007-08 through 2010-11, and 50 or more the past two years.

Attendance by emeriti and their guests at these events has grown from 750-850 annually in the first three years, to over 900 in 2007-08, almost 1250 during 2009-10 and 2010-11, down to just over 1100 in 2011-12, but back up to over 1350 in 2012-13. These numbers are only estimates as some guests do not sign in, and the totals are impacted by a few large (sometimes off-site) events where attendance is quite variable.

Events which attracted the largest audiences this past academic year included a special joint program with the IU Retirees Association featuring former representative Lee Hamilton; the Patten lecturer, Werner Herzog; a presentation on the Supreme Court’s Citizens United decision by Prof. Luis Fuentes-Rohwer; and a discussion of Climate Change by Prof. Emeritus Ben Brabson. Receptions for the new 2012 cohort of faculty retirees hosted by Vice Provost Tom Gieryn, and the opening of the 2013 Emeriti House/IU Retirees Association Art Exhibit also attracted large groups. The quality and diversity of programming remain remarkable and are a tribute to the vitality of our enterprise.
Types of Programs

Presentations of continuing research by (mostly) retired IU faculty are an important focus of EH programming, and this year, especially on the subject of climate change: Al Ruesink (Biology), “The Impact of Global Climate Change on Plants and Animals”; David Dilcher (Biology), “Global Climate as Seen Through Ancient Plants”; and Ben Brabson (Physics), as noted above, “Climate Change and Bloomington.”


A panel discussion on the 2012 Nobel Prizes in Literature, Economics and Biology featured Eugene Eoyang (Comparative Literature), Rick Harbaugh (active, Business) and George Malacinski (Biology). The College of Arts & Sciences themester on “Good Behavior, Bad Behavior” brought us Rabbi Ron Klotz from IU’s Hillel Center.

There were two travel and culture programs: John McDowell (Folklore) and Enrique Merino (Geology), “A Tour of Cuba Through Photo Landmarks and Music”; and “The Barcelona Model and Overseas Education,” a SPEA study abroad program by Bill McGregor (SPEA) and his wife, Carol.

Creative activities and the arts included presentations by Barry Gealt (Fine Arts), leading a tour of a special exhibit of his paintings at the IU Art Museum; Diane Pelrine (active, curator at the IUAM) provided a tour of an exhibit on the Australian artist Richard Bell; John McDowell
(Folklore) presented “The Ballad of Narcomexico”; Henry Glassie (Folklore) profiled the Nigerian artist “Prince Twins Seven Seven.”

Ruth Boshkoff (Music) brought “Borrowed Tunes from the American Temperance Society”; Steve Johnson (Computer Science) performed the “Bloomington Blues”; Imelda Delgado (Music) presented “An Intimate Portrait of Sidney Foster, Pianist and Mentor”; Les Touches, a viola de gamba consort from the IU Early Music Institute, performed; and Peter Bailey (History, University of Manitoba and local artist) not only discussed “Roller Skates to Ragtime: Americans and Americanization in Victorian Britain,” but also offered a series of Friday “Happy Hour” sessions playing piano.

Other local artists also performed: Janis Stockhouse, Director of the band program at Bloomington North High School, with students on “How Music Can Empower and Inspire”; Keiko Kasza, local author and illustrator on “Pornography in Children’s Books”; and Steve Pollitt, local musician, demonstrated “Exotic Woodwinds.”

There were two poetry sessions with Catherine Bowman (active, English) and Don Gray (English). These began as conversations about poems that the participants liked and wanted to talk about, but soon, members of the group began bringing in their own poems, and the sessions turned into more wide-ranging interactions about personal as well as established poetry.

John Woodcock led another nine Life-Writing workshops, bringing the total to an astonishing 44 since their inception six years ago, where emeriti present and discuss projects drawing upon their life histories. These workshops have become an integral part of the mission of Emeriti House at this point. John also persuaded a group of his writers to present their work as a special program on Life-Writing.

Institutional and social issues at IU and in Bloomington were the focus of two programs by active local leaders: Larry Singell (Dean, College of Arts & Sciences), “The Future of Liberal Arts at IU”; and Nancy Richman (Volunteers in Medicine Clinic of Monroe County) with
Elizabeth “Bet” Savich (Director, City of Bloomington Volunteer Network), “Volunteerism in Bloomington.”

Emeriti House hosted a number of distinguished visitors to IU, including three Patten lecturers: Werner Herzog, the distinguished filmmaker; Barbie Zelizer, a media scholar of death and dying and the Raymond Williams Chair of Communications at the University of Pennsylvania; and Sarah Hrdy, a primatologist and the A.D. White Professor at Cornell University – all discussed their personal and intellectual biographies. EH and the IU Retirees Association also held a joint program featuring retired US Representative Lee Hamilton, currently Director of IU’s Center on Congress.

Emeriti House sponsored the fifth and final Susan J. Eklund Honorary Lectureship, with support from the IU School of Public Health and the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs. Professor Harvey Sterns, Director of the Institute for Life-Span Development and Gerontology at the University of Akron, spoke on “Life Planning: Self-Management of Career and Retirement.”

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, hosted by Vice Provost Tom Gieryn, to honor the new emeriti cohort of 2012, introducing them to the House and its activities.

For the sixth 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 the university’s continuing commitment to and appreciation for retired faculty.
Annual Art Exhibit

The Eleventh Annual Emeriti House Art Exhibit, in partnership with the IU Retirees Association (IURA) was held throughout May 2013, with a large opening reception on May 3, to coincide with the 3rd Annual City of Bloomington Creative Aging Festival. Jerry Chertkoff again did an outstanding job as chair of the Exhibit’s planning committee.

The event featured 36 diverse works by 19 different retired faculty, professional staff members and their spouses. The mixed media this year included pottery/stoneware, limestone, painting, collage, woodworking, quilting, knitted textiles, and lots of photography, including several in 3-D!

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.

Oral History Project

The emeriti oral history project under Don Gray’s leadership resumed with several interviews of colleagues who have left Bloomington but were back on campus, along with a series of interviews of people who held important administrative positions. The project has been enhanced by the purchase of a new digital camera. As we approach IU’s 200th anniversary, this trove of interviews will be an exceptional resource.

Other

As noted in my previous report, the fifth biennial conference of AROHE, the national Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education, was held in October 2012 at Chapel Hill, NC. Bob Meier, representing our Outreach activities, attended on behalf of
Emeriti House and reported back on a number of sessions pertinent to our efforts in working with retired university faculty and staff. He is also developing a volunteer listing of agencies involving emeriti for our redesigned website.

The new Emeriti House website became active in October and can be seen at http://www.indiana.edu/~emeriti/. There you can find updated listings of events, these annual reports, biographies of retired faculty dating back to 2005 (earlier ones should be available soon), a listing of retiree benefits, links to useful on-line resources, and other information about Emeriti House.

Finally, we have instituted a new parking validation service at the Atwater Garage for visitors to Emeriti House events who lack an IU parking permit. These passes can be obtained from Nat McKamey during events so that no one attending EH activities should have to pay for parking.

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, some of our emeriti taught courses at IU and elsewhere, gave lectures around the world, continued research in their fields, served as docents at the IU 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 as well as the community.

Emeriti House will celebrate its tenth anniversary in January 2014. I have been privileged to serve as its Director since December 2005. Nat McKamey, our Coordinator over the past seven years, provides unflagging devotion and daily care to the House. The support of Tom Gieryn, Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs, and Lauren Robel, Provost, reflects IU’s strong commitment to its emeriti.
Emeriti House Committees (2012-13)

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

Tom Gieryn (Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs)
Nat McKamey (staff)

Program Committee
Joe Miller (chair)
Bob Arnowe
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Consuelo Lopez-Morillas
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