The Department of Spanish and Portuguese cordially invites you to the 19th Annual Merle E. Simmons Distinguished Alumni Lecture

The Queen’s Dreams: Lope de Vega’s Representation of Queen Isabel I of Castile

Dr. Barbara Weissberger
Professor Emerita, University of Minnesota—Twin Cities
BA 1966, Indiana University

Friday, September 12, 2014
4:30 p.m.
Georgian Room, Indiana Memorial Union

Followed by our Annual Fall Reception
6:00-8:00 p.m.
Tudor Room, Indiana Memorial Union

Dr. Weissberger graduated with a B.A. in Spanish Literature from Indiana University and received her Ph.D. in Romance Languages and Literatures from Harvard University. She has written dozens of articles and book chapters on gender, ethnicity, sexuality, and sovereignty in Medieval and Renaissance Spanish literature, and is considered a leading feminist scholar in the field of Hispanomedievalism. Her essay, “Gender and Genre: The Gendered Taxonomy of Spanish Romance,” received the 2001 John K. Walsh Prize, awarded for most outstanding essay by the MLA Division of Medieval Hispanic Languages, Literatures, and Cultures. In 2006, she received the International La Corónica Book Award for Isabel Rules: Constructing Queenship, Wielding Power (U of Minnesota Press, 2004). In this groundbreaking monograph, she examined the role of competing gendered representations of the Catholic Queen in the construction of her public image. Together with María Judith Feliciano, Leyla Rouhi and Cynthia Robinson, she co-edited a 2006 special issue of the journal Medieval Encounters: Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Culture in Confluence and Dialogue, entitled Interrogating Iberian Frontiers. In 2008, Prof. Weissberger edited an important multidisciplinary volume, Queen Isabel I of Castile: Power, Patronage, Persona (Boydell and Brewer), inspired by the quincentenary of Isabel’s death. She is currently working on another book-project, entitled Anti-Semitism and Nationhood in Spain: 1490-1945.