

Trevor R. Brown

Professor Trevor R. Brown retires as dean of the Indiana University School of Journalism this spring, a position he has held since 1985. He first arrived in Bloomington in the winter of 1972 as a young assistant professor fresh out of the doctoral program in communication-public affairs at Stanford University. In his 33 years here as a faculty member, he has built a reputation for being one of the fairest, wisest, most unselfish, hardest-working, and most even-tempered of all faculty and administrators. Some have said that he has the patience of a saint. One of the most telling indicators of his dedication to IU is the fact that in all these years he has not had a single semester of leave and has regularly taught Journalism's large introductory foundation class for freshmen—all the while keeping his wonderful wry sense of humor and positive outlook and performing an amazing amount of significant academic administration and service.

Trevor was born and grew up in South Africa, where he studied history and English literature at Rhodes University before going to Oxford University in England as a Rhodes Scholar to earn a bachelor's degree with honors in modern history. After that he worked as a sports and general reporter for the *Cape Times* in South Africa and then came to Stanford University in California, where he earned a master's degree in communication and journalism. Upon returning to South Africa in 1965, he taught Latin and English at the Western Province Preparatory School in Cape Town, worked as a part-time sports reporter and columnist for the *Cape Times* and became a lecturer in the Department of English Literature at the University of Cape Town. He returned to Stanford for a Ph.D. in communication. At IU Trevor has held various administrative posts as associate director of the Multinational Foreign Journalists Project funded by the U.S. State Department and as associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences—and editor of *Arts & Sciences*—when Journalism was still a department there. For the School of Journalism, he has served as graduate adviser, associate dean, and acting dean (after Dean Richard Gray's untimely death in November 1984) until being appointed dean himself in 1985. He has also chaired the Rhodes, Marshall, Churchill, and Mitchell Scholarship Nomination Committee at IU since 1981.

Other significant service to IU includes chairing search committees for the deans of the School of Business (twice), the School of Public and Environmental Affairs, and the Graduate School, as well as serving on search committees for university chancellor, the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, the director of the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University, and the vice president for University Relations. Trevor has also served on the Board of Governors of the Kinsey Institute and the Center on Philanthropy for the past decade.

As dean of the School of Journalism, Trevor was instrumental in making the school an independent unit within the university and in revising the curriculum to reflect the convergence of various media forms. In 1995 he led the effort to secure a \$1.5 million grant from the Knight Foundation to restructure the curriculum to prepare students for the new converged media environment and to train doctoral students to teach and do research in this new world of journalism and mediated communication.

His national service record has been equally impressive. It includes chairing the Accrediting Committee of the national Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication; chairing the site visit teams to 21 universities since 1988; serving for nearly 20 years on the Board of Trustees of the Poynter Institute in St. Petersburg, Florida; and being on the Board of Visitors of the Defense Information School while it was still at Fort Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis.

The quality of his work and insight has been recognized over the years not only by his IU colleagues, but also by the Ford Foundation, the Danforth Foundation, The Freedom Forum (which named him Journalism Administrator of the Year in 2001), and the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame (which inducted him last spring). In August at its national convention, the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication presented him with its Presidential Award for Distinguished Service to Journalism and Mass Communication Education.

While conferring the Freedom Forum award upon Trevor, Charles Overby, chairman and chief executive officer, remarked: "With his vision, commitment and selfless involvement in all aspects of journalism education, he has made extraordinary contributions to the profession and to the field of higher education."

In addition to all these accomplishments and awards, Trevor and his wife, Charlene, who is associate director of the Wells Scholars Program and also directs the extracurricular program for IU Bloomington's Honors College, co-authored a book, *The Media and the People*, with their former Stanford University professor, William Rivers (published by Holt, Rinehart and Winston in 1978). The *Indiana Daily Student's* article about this began: "One problem working couples often face is finding time to be together. Charlene

and Trevor Brown, lecturer and associate professor in the Journalism department respectively, have found a solution to this dilemma – they wrote a book together.”

Trevor and Charlene have worked together on behalf of Indiana University and its faculty, staff, and students for a third of a century. While we all hate to see Trevor retire, there is no doubt that he has more than earned it. The School of Journalism and all of us associated with it have been enormously fortunate to have had him as a colleague, friend, advocate, and dean for so many years. We are also fortunate that he and Charlene plan to stay in Bloomington for the foreseeable future so we can still take advantage of Trevor’s exceptional wisdom and wit for years to come.

David Weaver