

EMERITI HOUSE

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

Richard E. Stryker, Director

May 2010

This is the third 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 2008-09 spring semester and the 2009-2010 academic year. (NB: these "annual" reports have appeared at different intervals, roughly 1½ years apart.) For an overview of Emeriti House and its first five years of activity, see the previous reports on our website: www.indiana.edu/~emeriti/, where you may also find continuously updated information about the House and its events.

Emeriti House, originated at the initiative of Moya Andrews and Susan Eklund in 2004, is both a place and an idea. Its mission, worth reiterating, 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."

Emeriti House does not have a clearly bounded membership nor does it assess any dues. The House is available to and welcomes all emeritus faculty and librarians of Indiana University, Bloomington, including their widows, widowers, spouses, partners, and guests, plus emeriti from other universities who have retired here. The intention is to be inclusive of Bloomington's retired academic community. We also maintain a close working relationship with the IU Retirees Association, formerly the Annuitants Association.

Governance

During its gestation, Emeriti House (EH) was guided by a Governance Committee, which set forth some basic structures and policies for the House, though many issues were not addressed. This committee disbanded and was replaced by an Oversight (later Executive) Committee, and has now been reconstituted as the EH Advisory Board. Over the past year, the Board has adopted a Governance Document to elaborate and clarify the administrative structure of Emeriti House. It is less than a formal constitution and by-laws, but more than we had, and seems appropriate at this stage of our development.

Emeriti House is administratively responsible to the Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs. This Vice Provost (VPFAA) appoints a half-time Coordinator from his/her office staff, who is charged with the day to day functioning of the House and works closely with the EH Director and committees.

The Director serves as the manager of and spokesperson for Emeriti House and is appointed by the VPFAA, with the approval of at least a two-thirds majority of the Advisory Board. The term of the Director is three years (renewable).

The Advisory Board is chaired by the Director and includes the chairs of all EH committees, plus four other emeriti appointed by the VPFAA in consultation with the Director. Committee chairs are appointed by the Director for terms of three years (renewable). The other members of the Advisory Board serve terms of five years (renewable).

Meeting each semester, the responsibilities of the Advisory Board are to support the mission of Emeriti House; to serve as an advisory committee to the Director and the VPFAA; 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.

Members of the EH standing committees are appointed by the Director, in consultation with the committee chairs, for terms of up to five years (renewable). New members are sought out regularly to

expand and invigorate participation in EH governance. Emeriti House is governed solely by retired faculty and librarians.

The standing committees are:

1. The Program Committee, with up to 10 members including its chair, is responsible for selecting, organizing and hosting the regular series of events which take place at or through Emeriti House. These include presentations on continuing research; musical and other creative activity performances and demonstrations; lectures and panels on institutional and social issues at IU and in Bloomington; life-writing workshops and other events, mostly by and for IU emeriti, but also including the co-sponsorship of distinguished visitors to IU, especially from the Patten Foundation and the Institute for Advanced Study.
2. The House Committee, with 3-4 members including its chair, develops and monitors House rules concerning use of and access to the facilities, including parking and the grounds; monitors the state of the House and approves purchases (e.g., furniture, equipment, the library); and works with the Director and the Coordinator to plan and organize social events and determine hospitality and entertainment policies.
3. The Oral History Project, with a fluctuating group of volunteers, is engaged in a long-term effort to record and collect interviews on videotape with IUB retired faculty, and to have these interviews transcribed. The videotapes (converted to DVDs) and the typed transcripts are stored at EH and in the University Archives. These materials will be available for approved purposes and researchers, including the historians who are commissioned to write a history of IU for 2020, the 200th anniversary.
4. The Outreach Committee, with 3-4 members including its chair, will seek out and compile opportunities for retired faculty to engage in volunteer, mentoring and advising activities and match these opportunities with willing and able emeriti, providing service to the larger university and town communities. The EH website will be the site of a modest networking initiative for these matching efforts.
5. The Art Exhibit/Gallery Committee, with c. 8 members including its chair or co-chairs, is responsible for organizing and mounting an annual, juried exhibition of art works at EH by IU retirees, their spouses, widows and partners. A selection of these works is chosen for continued display as the Fall and Spring Galleries. Membership of this committee comprises both emeriti and other IU retirees from the IU Retirement Association. At least one of the co-chairs must be an emeritus faculty member, with a seat on the EH Advisory Board.
6. A new Recognition Committee, not yet established, will acknowledge and publicize emeriti achievements on the EH website and perhaps eventually in a newsletter; send messages of support and sympathy to emeriti who are ill (when known); recognize deaths of emeriti through messages of condolence to their families; and (under the direction of the IU-Bloomington Necrologist, a new position now filled by Don Gray, formerly the University-wide Necrologist) solicit memorial resolutions from appropriate deans and chairs to be presented to the BFC and collected in an EH Archive.

See the appendix to this report for a listing of EH committee members.

Programs (2008-10)

At the heart of the mission of Emeriti House are its regular programs, which have expanded continuously in number and attendance over the past six years. The Program Committee has organized and hosted a growing number of events: c. 25 during 2004-05 and 2005-06, 30 in 2006-07, 40 in 2007-08, 40 again in 2008-09, and 45 in the 2009-10 academic year.

Attendance by emeriti and their guests at EH events has grown from c. 750-850 annually in the first three years, to over 900 in 2007-08, almost 1050 in 2008-09, and 1250 in 2009-10.

Presentations of **continuing research** by (mostly) retired faculty remain a central focus of EH programming. Over the past three semesters these have included an exceptional diversity of topics and disciplines: a historical portrait of Lincoln and Garibaldi (Edoardo Lebano); an interpretation of the origins of the Soviet Communist autocracy (Alex Rabinowitch); understanding India through its religions (Bill Popkin); “Darwin to DNA: The Voyage of the Beagle is not Over” (Rudy Raff); lessons from studies of twins (Richard Rose); illustrating the Faust story (Peter Boerner); the difficulties of the concept of time in the Darwinian view of the origin of species (George Malacinski and a panel of Simon Brassell, Don Lichtenberg and Craig Nelson); an examination of biblical narrative through a study of the book of Judges (Jim Ackerman); chemicals in the environment (Ron Hites); a review of The Singing Neanderthals on the origins of music and language (Bob Port); the biology of organ regeneration (Tony Neff); and the logistics of a travelling circus (Vince Mabert)!

Creative activities of emeriti (and others) have also been well represented, including vocal performances by Voces Novae, the Raging Grannies, and Kaia; a presentation by Rudy Pozzatti of his new lithograph series; readings from his writings by Harry Geduld; the virtuoso accordionist Svetla Vladeva; performances and discussions of musical landscapes of Mongolia by a group of visiting musicians, and of music from Azerbaijan by a visiting Fulbright Fellow, both organized by Mary Goetze; a survey of the Black Spiritual by James Mumford; and “A Night at the Victorian Music Hall” by Peter Bailey (who also played and entertained at each of the end of semester receptions).

Emeriti House participants were hosted for four personal tours at the **IU Art Museum**: on Islamic Art Books (Yasemin Gencer), on the photographs of Hiroshi Sugimoto, and on the Great American Sketchbook (Nan Brewer), and on African pottery, textiles and baskets (William Itter and Diane Pelrine). In addition, a large group of emeriti was given a demonstration of the new **Auer Hall Organ** by Janette Fishell.

Two **travel programs** with vivid slides were presented by emeriti: Joe and Ruth Miller led us to Machu Picchu, John and Peggy Woodcock to Turkey. In similar vein, George Malacinski provided a Middle Eastern journey with an exhibition of “Oriental Rugs and the Stories They Tell.”

John Woodcock continued to offer his **Life-Writing workshops** at EH, with ten more sessions during the period covered by this report, more than doubling the number of these special, creative opportunities to date for IU emeriti to record (or plan to record) their life histories. The workshops are at the core of Emeriti House’s mission.

Institutional and social issues at IU and in Bloomington were featured in a number of programs, including Ken Gros Louis on the history of the Bloomington campus; Don Gray and Yue Ren on the EH Oral History Project; Dan Callison on IU Continuing Studies; Phil Bantin on the IU Archives; Lesa Lorenzen-Huber on the IU program on ethical technologies in the homes of seniors; Craig Nelson on

teaching strategies; and Sam Bell on his career as the IU track coach. Environmental and social issues were addressed by Peter Bane in a presentation on permaculture; David Parkhurst on rebuilding New Orleans; Shodo Spring and Rhonda Baird, members of “Transition Bloomington”; and Ann Kreilkamp, editor of Crone magazine.

Finally, Emeriti House hosted some very **distinguished visitors** to IU through the Patten Lectureships, and the Branigin Lectureships of the Institute for Advanced Study: Werner Sollers (Harvard, English and African-American Studies), Donald Bloxham (Edinburgh, History), W.J.T. Mitchell (Chicago, English and Art History), and Lawrence Buell (Harvard, English).

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, Emeriti House sponsored a Second Annual Susan J. Eklund Honorary Lectureship in fall 2009. Sue Eklund, distinguished professor emerita at the School of Education, was director of IU’s Center on Aging and the Aged for 16 years. She also served as Associate Dean of Faculties before retiring in 2004 and (with Moya Andrews) was the founding co-director of Emeriti House.

From among an impressive list of nominees, we selected Professor Emeritus Joel Savishinsky, the Charles A. Dana Professor in the Social Sciences at Ithaca College. His lecture, “Zen and the Art of Retirement,” attracted a substantial audience to the School of Education Auditorium on October 15, 2009, followed by a discussion session and reception at Emeriti House. A speaker for the Third Lecture in this series has already been identified for fall 2010.

Receptions

In addition to the reception for Joel Savishinsky, EH organized a special fall event to honor the new emeriti cohort of 2009 and to introduce them to the House and its activities. Continuing a tradition which now extends over the past three academic years, “tasting parties,” hosted by George Malacinski and Tine Lindemann, have been held at the end of each semester to celebrate the spirit of the House and its participants. Peter Bailey contributed outstanding piano music for these events.

Oral History Project

The purpose of the Emeriti Oral History Project, under the direction of Don Gray, is to collect the stories of retired colleagues with significant academic and administrative careers at IU-Bloomington, beginning especially in the 1950s to the 1970s. As Don has noted, “this was a remarkably propitious time, probably without precedent. So we’ve got the stories of people who studied and taught at a big state university during a time when it, like many others, simply exploded in size and resources.”

A fluctuating group of eight or nine emeriti began interviewing these colleagues in the fall of 2004. They have now recorded on videotape over 160 interviews, which are then converted to DVDs and to audiotapes, from which typed transcripts are being prepared. The completed transcripts and the tapes will be archived in both the University Archives and at Emeriti House.

With nearly 500 retired faculty residing in the Bloomington area for at least part of the year, and another 30-50 joining them annually, the Project seeks to interview up to 100 more emeriti over the next two years. To accomplish this goal, additional support has been recently provided from the Office of the

Provost. Emeriti House is privileged to be a part of this ongoing project in intellectual and institutional history, which will be of significant value in writing a new history of IU for its bicentennial in 2020.

Annual Art Exhibits

The eighth annual Emeriti House Art Exhibit, in partnership with the IU Retirees Association, was held during the month of April 2010, with a large reception on the opening evening. The event featured over 60 highly varied and impressive mixed media works (the largest ever) by 23 retired faculty, professional staff members and their spouses. John Woodcock and Jerry Chertkoff served as co-chairs of the Exhibit's planning committee this year. Woodcock was also responsible for developing a continuing "Emeriti House Gallery," beginning in 2008, with a smaller, rotating number of works from the Exhibit being displayed in the House throughout the academic year. [For the record, the 2009 Exhibit was the seventh of these annual events (there are slightly varying counts, but this is the correct one!), chaired solely by Woodcock and featuring 27 artists with 55 works.]

Parking and Access

In my last report, dated January 2009, I discussed some of the access problems facing handicapped or mobility impaired visitors to Emeriti House. I also reported, prematurely as it turns out, that IU officials had confirmed a plan to resurface part of the adjacent lot and to create a set of (initially, seven) parking spaces there, even though that would require removing at least some large trees. Despite assurances, the trees won.

In compensation, Emeriti House has gained precisely seven parking spaces along the alley behind the House, directly across from the Atwater Garage and next to Faculty Lane, designated for ARE permits only, while attending activities at EH. There are also three Handicapped spaces in the alley behind the House itself.

The next step, projected for completion during summer 2010, is to build a graded sidewalk from the alley into the tree-laden lot and up to the ramp leading to the House. The walkway should be accessible to those in wheelchairs, those using walkers and those with mobility difficulties. Only then will EH be ADA-compliant so that handicapped visitors have reasonable access. Only then, of course, will the new parking spaces for the House be of much value. The creation of a sidewalk alongside the House will provide a safer alternative entrance for all visitors who park in the Atwater Garage, as well as for those in the new parking spaces, making it possible to avoid walking along Atwater Street.

Allocation of the seven non-handicapped parking spaces will be on an "honor's" system to begin with: visitors should not park in these spaces during EH events unless they need to do so for reasons of physical mobility, deferring to their less able colleagues. Should this arrangement not suffice to accommodate those most in need, an alternative allocation system will be developed.

Several safety measures have also been implemented. The curbing at the corner of Atwater and Faculty Lane has been extended, providing some extra gap between traffic and pedestrians. The IU dump truck, which was regularly parked in a space next to the garage entrance, has been removed permanently, and this space is now open, which improves both pedestrian and traffic visibility. The sidewalk along Faculty Lane has been improved and extended. Other measures are under discussion.

Emeriti House is now 6 ½ years old. Many people are contributing to our progress in realizing its mission to become a more visible, more valued, more institutionalized “environment to support the continuation of the intellectual and creative activities of retired faculty.” Special thanks, again, to Nat McKamey, Emeriti House Coordinator, over the past four years, who brings to the House a wonderful spirit and great commitment; also to Laura Bernal, who has regularly staffed EH in the mornings; and to Tom Gieryn, the man behind the VPFAA acronym over the past 1½ years, and Karen Hansen, Provost, who have been staunch supporters of Emeriti House and are greatly appreciated.

Emeriti House Committees (2008-2010)

Advisory Board (2008-10)

Dick Stryker (chair, 2006 -)
Moya Andrews
Dick Carr
Jerry Chertkoff
Don Gray
Bob Meier
Keith Michael
Joe Miller
Joe Waldman
John Woodcock

Advisory Board (2010 -)

Dick Stryker (chair)
Dick Carr
Jerry Chertkoff
Don Gray
Ken Gros Louis
Bob Meier
Keith Michael
Joe Miller
Pat Riesenman
John Woodcock

Program Committee (2008-10)

Joe Miller (chair, 2009 -)
Jerry Chertkoff (chair, 2006-09)
Ernest Bernhardt-Kabisch
Gil Clark
Don Gray
Mary Goetze
Audrey Heller
George Malacinski
David Parkhurst
Lew Rowell

Program Committee (2010 -)

Joe Miller (chair)
Bob Arnove
Ernest Bernhardt-Kabisch
Jerry Chertkoff
Mary Goetze
Audrey Heller
George Malacinski
David Parkhurst
Bob Port
...

House Committee (2008-10)

Dick Carr (chair)
Marian Shabaan

House Committee (2010 -)

Pat Riesenman (chair)
Dick Carr
Sam Guskin

Outreach Committee (2010 -)

Bob Meier (chair)
Don Granbois

Ken Heller
Carol Polsgrove

Art Exhibit Committee (2008-10)

John Woodcock (chair/co-chair, 2007-10)
Jerry Chertkoff (co-chair, 2010)
Bill Hansen (co-chair, 2008)
Gil Clark
Dick Dever
Audrey Heller (co-chair, 2007)
Sandy Hertling
Ed McEndarfer (2010)
Ruth Miller

Art Exhibit Committee (2010 -)

Jerry Chertkoff (chair)
Bob Ensman
Audrey Heller
Ed McEndarfer
B.J. Irvine
Ruth Miller
John Woodcock
...

Oral History Project

Don Gray (chair, 2004 -)
Jim Ackerman
David Austin
Bob Campbell
Jerry Chertkoff
Sue Eklund
Shirley Fitzgibbons
Sam Guskin
Margaret Intons-Peterson
George Juergens
Bill Perkins
John Ryan
Myrtle Scott
John Woodcock