

# Advances

Volume 3, Number 3 Fall 2002

News from the IU School of Liberal Arts

## Making the Most Out of Life:

Lisa Stone, BA 1976, Political Science; MBA/JD 1980



Lisa with her husband, Jim Cunning, before a recent relay race in which they were part of a 12 person team that ran 126 miles from Mt. Hood, Oregon, through Portland and ending at Seaside on the Oregon coast.

"I started college at IU Bloomington, but transferred to IUPUI after my sophomore year so that I would be able to work while I attended classes. I was employed by the Taxpayer Service Division of the Internal Revenue Service and waited tables at the Cork and Cleaver Restaurant on the weekends.

The best part of my experience at IUPUI was attending classes with people who were no better off than myself—people likewise worked and attended classes. There was a great deal of comfort in knowing that others were struggling to obtain their education and that I was not alone in my efforts to make something of myself. I also enjoyed the smaller class size and the accessibility of the professors. The flexibility in scheduling classes was essential to my being able to work and attend class.

There is no better way to understand where a liberal arts degree can take you than by learning about the life journeys of alumni. We asked alumni to talk about their IUPUI experience, about where they've been since and where they are now. We are always looking for more alumni stories. If you would like to share yours, please email us. [LibArts@iupui.edu](mailto:LibArts@iupui.edu)

After graduation, I entered law school at IUPUI (IU Indianapolis). After my first year of law school, I was admitted to the MBA-JD program, which I completed in May of 1980. My second year of law school was spent at American University Washington College of Law in Washington D.C. while I worked on Capital Hill for U.S. Congressman Andy Jacobs, Jr. on Ways and Means matters.

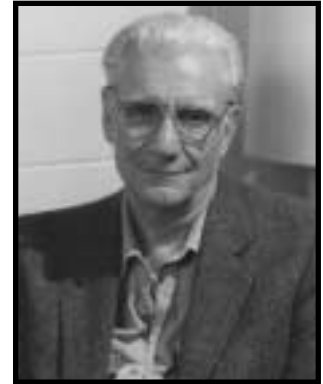
After graduation from the MBA/JD program, I joined the law firm of Ice Miller [in Indianapolis] and became a partner in the firm in January of 1987.

My life is much more than practicing law. I am involved with many activities at IUPUI—the Jaguars Athletic Club, the Chancellor's Advisory Board, the Chancellor's Search Committee, and the Center for Excellence in Women's Health. I also enjoy running and bicycling with my husband, Jim Cunning, who is also a partner at Ice Miller. He and I have completed over 10 marathons and some long distance relay races. We love to travel. Our honeymoon in July and August of 2001 was spent hiking across the Alps from Chamonix, France, to Zermatt, Switzerland. We hope to climb Mt. Blanc (France) in the next year or so."

## Joseph R. Keller

1922 - 2002

from *The Indianapolis Star*



Dr. Joseph R. Keller

Joseph "Ray" Keller died October 6th.

Dr. Keller was Professor Emeritus of English at IUPUI, where he taught English linguistics, medieval and modern literature and writing from 1955 to 1987.

He published numerous poems and plays; his later work in linguistics includes three books and dozens of articles, especially in the area of religious discourse.

Dr. Keller was an Army veteran of World War II. He was a graduate of Columbia University.

He was the widower of Anne Dolan Keller and Lee Dixon Keller.

He is survived by his friend, Jody Gollan.

A memorial service was held on November 17 at IUPUI.

*Memorial contributions may be made to the Sarah Jamison Keller Scholarship Fund at IUPUI.*

# A Message from the Dean

Happy Holidays!

As I write this, I have just removed my apron (featuring a snappy sunflower motif my wife, Dot, displays in our kitchen) following my duties carving two Thanksgiving turkeys in honor of the extraordinary staff of the School of Liberal Arts. This is the fourth year faculty have organized, cooked, served and cleaned up a wonderful meal dedicated to the staff who are the glue that holds us all together throughout the year. It was a joyous event, and for the first time, we didn't run out of turkey!

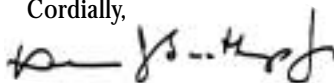


Dean Herman J. Saatkamp, Jr.

Departmental and program staff are our "front-liners." They may well be the first people you ever talked with at the school. We depend on their generosity of spirit, their helpfulness, knowledge and good will in their numerous contacts with students and members of the public who need our services. Enrollments are up. Majors are up. Gifts are up. Grants are up. We couldn't be successful without everyone's hard work and dedication. I hope that if you get a chance, you will take some time today to call the department you graduated from and say thank you to the person (staff or faculty) who may have held out a helping hand to you sometime during your college career. You can look us up at our web site ([www.liberalarts.iupui.edu](http://www.liberalarts.iupui.edu)) or email [LibArts@iupui.edu](mailto:LibArts@iupui.edu).

In 1972, the Board of Trustees approved the formation of the IU School of Liberal Arts. Today's issue of *Advances* highlights alumni throughout our 3 decades. We also pay tribute to a member of our founding faculty who continued to mentor students and colleagues throughout his retirement, Ray Keller. We are thankful to all who have made this past year a success, and we wish you all the best in the coming year.

Cordially,



Herman J. Saatkamp, Jr.  
Dean

## Sticking with Academics: Peter Carmichael, BA 1988, History



Peter Carmichael

"After receiving my bachelor's degree at IUPUI in history in 1998, I went on to complete my graduate work at Penn State University, receiving a doctorate in history 1997. I am currently an assistant professor of history at the University

of North Carolina at Greensboro. I have written one book, published by the University of Virginia and a variety of scholarly and popular articles. I speak frequently to popular audiences and have appeared on C-SPAN's BookNotes on two different occasions.

My academic career would not have been possible if it had not been for the fine teaching I received in the history department at IUPUI. I am very grateful to the faculty members who spent more time than what I could reasonably have expected to develop my skills as a historian."

*Holiday Greetings  
from the  
Faculty, Staff and Students  
of the  
IU School of Liberal Arts  
at IUPUI.*

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# Jumping Out of Airplanes:

## Todd A. Schmidt, BA 1996, Political Science



Todd A. Schmidt

"I loved everything about my IUPUI experience (absence makes the heart grow fonder?) The administration officials were more than high titled officials, they were friends. Chancellor Gerald Bepko and his wife, the Plater family, Dr. Gene Tempel, Dr. Robert Martin, and all of their support staff are incredible people that have so much to give -and give all they have to the university. The State Relations Office - Don Weaver, Janice McCloud, Malcomb Webb, J T. Forbes - were and are still very close friends. The IUPUI Alumni Office: Karen Deery, was a friend and confidante.

The faculty were also more than professors, they were mentors, advisors, and friends - Dr. Bill Blomquist (PolSci), Dr. Richard Fredland (PolSci), Dr. John McCormick (PolSci), Rosalie Vermette (French), Dr. Rowland Sherrill (Religion), Dr.

Justin Libby (History) - each of these professors had a huge impact on my life. They captured my imagination, taught me things that I am still discovering, and have given me many of the mind-tools that still guide my life and learning.

The students of IUPUI were probably the best part of my experience, however. The International House and intramural sports were great places to meet people from all over the world and right downtown. I made new and interesting friends and extended my learning beyond the classroom. Student Government and the Student Center were both mediums that

**The faculty... captured my imagination, taught me things that I am still discovering...**

allowed me to meet people that were interested in learning, but also in making a positive difference both in the university and in their eventual career paths.

I honestly have to say, I loved everything about IUPUI - after I found a

parking spot.

Upon graduation I had the distinct honor of being selected and working for Gov. Evan Bayh as a 1996-97 Governor's Fellow. I completed the Fellowship under the administration of Gov. Frank O'Bannon and went to U. S. Army Airborne School, Fort Benning, GA. After becoming a paratrooper, I received my assignment to the 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, NC. As a Platoon Leader and Company Executive Officer, I had the opportunity to work with the best soldiers in the U. S. Army. Most of them were fresh from high school, came from small towns across the U. S. and wanted three things: to serve their country, earn money for college, and jump out of airplanes.

While serving at Fort Bragg, I met my beautiful wife, Joy. We were married prior to my leaving Fort Bragg, but immediately were separated when I was assigned for a year to the 2nd Infantry Division, Republic of Korea. I worked about 25km from the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), and remember the high alert the entire unit came to on 11 September. The camp I lived on was smaller than a football field and within artillery range of North Korea. Needless to say, all the troops and I appreciated the support

we received from our wives, families, from patriots all over the U. S. and from the citizens of South Korea.

Currently, my wife Joy and I are reunited. We now live in a small suburb of Honolulu. My wife attends University of Hawaii - Manoa and I work in the 25th Infantry Division (Light), Schofield Barracks. Although we don't have any children, Joy and I have started to plan for the future. Joy, an alum of Clemson University, SC, is pursuing her teacher's certification in mathematics. I will remain in the military and take command of a company of soldiers in the near future. Did I mention that we spend a lot of time at the beach?

Following Hawaii, Joy and I plan to move back to Fort Bragg. Joy plans to take a teaching job, while I will enter a Psychological Operations unit with the Special Operations Command and pursue an M.A. in International Relations. She will be back home in North Carolina, and I will be back home with the paratroopers.

**AIRBORNE!"**

Want more news?  
Send a message to  
[LibArts@iupui.edu](mailto:LibArts@iupui.edu) to  
subscribe to the  
Liberal Arts Alumni  
Email Newsletter!!

## Former Sagamore Editor Continues Writing: Joyce Jensen, BA 1987, English



Joyce Jensen with her grandson in front of one of her paintings.

"My primary involvement at IUPUI was 3 1/2 years at the Sagamore. I started in 1983-84 and became editor-in-chief in '85-86. At that time, at the age of 40, I had the interesting distinction of being the oldest editor to date. That record may well have been broken by now.

I graduated with Highest Distinction (and still keep the white braid and tassels in my office).

I also served on the *genesis* board (do they still spell in with a lowercase g?) for a few semesters. With classes, a husband, two teenagers and a home to keep up, that was about

all I could manage.

I started as a freelance writer long before graduation, and continued until about ten years ago. I wrote for several departments at IUPUI, and for local and regional magazines, including the IU Alumni Magazine.

After selling several short stories, mostly science fiction and fantasy, I quit freelancing and wrote a science fiction novel, which remains unsold (alas). I'm almost finished with a second novel (an epic length, 250,000 word tome), which I haven't marketed yet.

After graduation, in early 1988, two friends and I started the Indiana Writers Workshop, which is still going strong. Many of the original members, a number of whom are still with the group, studied with Elizabeth Arthur, the novelist/memoirist who used to teach at IUPUI. We still keep in touch with her occasionally, and run our group with a similar

philosophy to the one she used in her classes.

About a year ago I started painting with watercolors. This summer I entered two paintings in the Fine Arts competition at the Indiana State Fair. It was my first painting competition and I received an Honorable Mention - quite a thrill!

I'm a member of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America, the Authors Guild and the National Writers Union. Recently I joined the artists group, the Hoosier Salon, and hope to become involved with other painters' groups in the near future. But I'm still writing, too.

My husband and I recently celebrated our thirty-sixth wedding anniversary. We have a second home in Colorado and collect art by Western and Indiana artists. We enjoy traveling in the West, from Arizona and New Mexico to Montana and Wyoming, and everywhere in between.

We're fortunate that both of our adult children live nearby. We have one grandson, age 7, who brings great joy to our lives. He and I are reading our way through the Harry Potter books."

## Risk Rater: David Driscoll BA 1979, Economics

"I attended IUPUI back in the days when it was strictly a commuter school. Like nearly everyone else I remember from those days, I wasn't much involved in extracurricular activities. The great advantage of the institution was that it provided a good education at affordable tuition and at a convenient location. I hope that this will always be the case.

After graduation, I earned a master's degree in economics and then embarked on a career as an actuary by passing the exams required for accreditation in this field. I earned the designation of Fellow of the Society of Actuaries. I worked for many years in the home office of a major insurance company, and for the past three and one-half years I have been employed in the Boston office of Buck Consultants, a major actuarial consulting firm.

I live and work in central Boston and I genuinely like it here."

### IU School of Liberal Arts Alumni Board

- ♦Kimberly Allanson (Religious Studies 1992)
- ♦Cynthia J. Ayers (Sociology 1974)
- ♦Bruce Beal (Political Science/Sociology 1997)
- ♦Daniel Brunson (Philosophy 2002)
- ♦Byron B. Buhner (Speech 1976) - Vice President
- ♦Linda K. Claflin (German 1985) - Secretary
- ♦Diana Dean-Spurgeon (English 1970)
- ♦Christine Dowdeswell (Political Science 1989) - President
- ♦James Foreman (Political Science 1996)
- ♦Daniel J. Henkel (Communication & Theatre 1984)
- ♦Melba D. Hopper (English 1991)
- ♦William E. Marple (History 1970)
- ♦Aristea Pappas (Honorary Alumna 2000)
- ♦Mary M. Parido (German 1972)
- ♦John Wild (Political Science 1974)

## ClassNotes

**John Wild, BA, 1974, Political Science**, was thanked for his public service in a resolution of the Missouri State Senate. He was recognized for his outstanding leadership as the CEO of the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority which has helped over a half a million students with student loans for college.

**Frederick Biesecker, BA, 1976**, Political Science, has rejoined Ice Miller Legal and Business Advisors in Indianapolis as a partner. He is currently serving as interim Executive Director of the Indiana Public Employees Retirement Fund (PERF). Previously he had worked for Governor Frank O'Bannon as his legal advisor.

**Lola Ann Culbreath, BA, 1980, History**, has worked in state government since she graduated. Currently she works for the State Department of Arkansas and is a volunteer for battered women. Lola has 4 grandchildren and enjoys yoga, swimming and bicycling. She writes that her life goal is to complete her Ph.D. in psychology.

**Daniel Beard, BA, 1980, Philosophy; BA, 1981, Geography**, wrote us "the best part of being a student at IUPUI was being able to get degrees from IU and Purdue. All of the classes were in one of four buildings. I went to Ball State for my master's in geography, went to work in St. Louis for the Defense Mapping Agency, then on to Indiana State for my Ph.D. in geography, but I only attained an Ab.D. I had to go back to work because I had a family. I now teach at Ball State in the Department of Geography."

**Linda J. Collins, BA, 1984, English**, writes, "I have never stopped writing for a living, although my writing is not as 'creative' as when I was publishing poems and short stories in *genesis*. I spent about seven years as a reporter after graduating. For the last 12 years I have been a corporate communications manager, first in Charlotte and now back in suburban Chicago."

**Altha Cravey, BA, 1985, Geography**, is a professor at the University of North Carolina. Her research is focused on labor geographies in Mexico and, most recently, on the influx of Mexicans in North Carolina.

**Cindy Conover Dashnaw, AA, 1985**, writes, "It took me 13 years going to IUPUI part time to get my undergraduate degree, so I thought I'd be done with school forever. Now I'm halfway through a master's degree program in public relations at Ball State University, and loving it!" Cindy works for the Eiteljorg Museum in Indianapolis as Director of Communications, and is the mother of Erin (8) and Ethan (5).

**Douglas E. MacLeod, BA, 1991, Economics**, lives and works in Kent, England. He is the Director of Sales for Fine Wine Internet Exchange at [www.uvine.com](http://www.uvine.com).

**Nenita Powers, BA, 1994, Sociology**, says that she is hoping to retire soon from the Target Distribution Center in Indianapolis. Nenita, who has two grown children with

## Education: A Family Tradition:

**William F. Conour  
BA 1970, History; JD 1974**



William F. Conour

"My only scholarships were in law school. During undergraduate school I worked full time to support my family and attended school at night so I was not involved in any extracurricular activities. I enjoyed the professors I met. IUPUI was much smaller then and I was able to make a more personal friendship with the professors in the

History Department.

I graduated cum laude with a Doctor of Law from the IU Indianapolis Law School. I opened my own law firm on May 1, 1974, and have been in private practice ever since.

I have six children, two of whom also graduated from IU and one who is currently attending Herron School of Art. Our family is active at Second Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis and I am a member of many legal and civic groups and boards. My wife Jennifer and I have two children still at home and we enjoy traveling the world with our family.

In 2001, I received the Spirit of Philanthropy award from the IU Indianapolis Law School."

husband, Byron, is an active volunteer and plans to travel the US after retirement to visit friends and family.

**Patricia L. Parks, BA, 1996, English**, and her husband, Robert, have 4 daughters and 5 grandchildren. Patricia is a pilot who has earned her instrument rating and tail-wheel endorsements for flying small planes. She also is a freelance writer and dedicated churchgoer.

**Suzanne M. (Hinz) Rich, BA, 1997, Geography**, works for American United Life as an analyst and says that lately she has been doing a lot of technical writing. She reports that as the Board President of the Tri-Area Library in Jamestown, Indiana, and as a volunteer librarian, "I have used my geography major experiences many times....My degree has helped me tremendously."

**Susan De Jarnatt-Walker, BA, 1999, Political Science**, and her husband Daniel have moved to McCordsville, Indiana. Susan continues to work at IUPUI in University College as Assistant Director of Orientation Services and Learning Community Mentors.

**Linda Lee Judd, BA, 2000, English**, writes that these days she is busy attending graduate school at IUPUI to earn a Master of Library Science degree.



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*Alumni Holiday Night at the Children's Museum of Indianapolis*

*Wednesday, December 11, 2002*

*6:30 - 9:00 pm*

*The Children's Museum of Indianapolis*

*IUPUI Friends, Food and Fellowship!*

Enjoy holiday cheer, good food,  
 great times, and live holiday music.

*Visit all 5 floors of the Children's Museum!*

See SuperCroc and Richard Scarry's Busytown.  
 Enjoy the Yule Slide and Jolly Days.  
 Ride the Carousel.

*Win Gifts and Prizes!*

Stop by and register to win prizes and holiday gifts.  
*Prize winners do not need to be present to win.*

*All For The Unbelievably  
 Low Price Of Sixteen Bucks!*

\$8.50 for children ages 3-12; kids two and under are free.

*Make Your Reservations Today!*

*Reservation deadline is Wednesday, December 4.*

Register online at: [www.alumni.iupui.edu](http://www.alumni.iupui.edu)

*Alumni Holiday Night Includes:*

Entertainment, food, and Museum admission ticket. Free parking.  
 Tickets will be held for pickup at the Alumni Holiday Night  
 registration tables, just inside the Museum lobby.

For additional information - call (317) 274-8828 or toll free (866) 267-3104