

Advances

Volume 4, Number 2 Summer 2003 News from the IU School of Liberal Arts



How are you using your Liberal Arts degree? Are you working in your discipline, or not? Loving what you do or tired of your current career and considering a transition into something different? You're not alone! Almost everyone is in a similar position at one time or another. Talk with alumni like you who studied what they loved and found success their own way. Career specialists will also be on hand to help you. Or just come for the reunion!

Dean's Day 2003 Liberal Arts WORKS! Careers in Motion

An event of Explore IUPUI

Saturday, September 13, 2003

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 10-10:30 am | Registration Cavanaugh Hall 508 |
| 10:30-11 am | Opening session Cavanaugh Hall 508
Featuring: Acting Dean Robert W. White |
| 11-11:45 am | Liberal Arts WORKS!:
Challenging the Myth/Defining Achievement
Moderator: Dr. Susan Sutton, Anthropology
Cavanaugh Hall Room 219 |
| 12-1:30 pm | Alumni Luncheon
Featuring: Chancellor Charles R. Bantz
The Reunion: Recognition of Graduates
Distinguished Alumni Award
University Place Hotel Ballroom
Reservations Required |
| 1:45-2:30 pm | Liberal Arts WORKS!:
Corporate Community Leadership
Moderator: Dr. Richard Turner, English
Cavanaugh Hall Room 219 |
| 2:30-3:15 pm | Liberal Arts WORKS!:
Career Planning for Students and Grads
Featuring the IUPUI Career Center
Cavanaugh Hall Room 219 |

New Low Registration Fee: \$15 (includes lunch)

To Register or Learn More: <http://liberalarts.iupui.edu/deansday/> or call the Alumni Office at 317-274-8828 or email LibArts@iupui.edu.

Come for all or part of Liberal Arts WORKS! and check out Explore IUPUI at the same time. Or bring your family, and split your time between the Family Fun Fest and the career sessions. Visit www.explore.iupui.edu to view the complete program.

Clip and save!

A Message from the Dean

Dear Friends,

It was with great sadness that I began my tenure as Acting Dean of the School of Liberal Arts with the deaths of two beloved faculty members, **Rowland A. "Tony" Sherrill** and **Scott Seregny**. Tony, as many of you will remember, was a long-time Chair of Religious Studies and, until recently, was Director of American Studies. A Chancellor's Professor, he was also the first holder of the Millennium Chair in Liberal Arts. Scott, a Professor of History, was an internationally recognized scholar of Russian history. In combination, they were a part of our faculty for almost fifty years. Each was an outstanding colleague, and friend. They are greatly missed.

This summer Liberal Arts also loses, through retirements, two very important people who have influenced the lives of thousands of students. Until June 30th, **Helen Henard** had, since 1984, been Liberal Arts' Undergraduate Counselor. Helen worked for the School for a total of 34 years. Her good work was essential to the success of our students. At the end of August, **Miriam Langsam**, Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Professor of History, will retire after 40 years as a valued member of our faculty. The adage 'if you want to know what she did, then look around,' applies better to Miriam than anyone else I can think of. A teacher and scholar, her service to Liberal Arts and the campus is unparalleled. She will be succeeded, but not replaced.

IUPUI's new Chancellor, **Charles R. Bantz** began his work June 1. **Dr. Adam Herbert** will become President of IU effective August 1. Change is in the air. Yet, there remain constants: we continue to provide an excellent academic experience for our students; our faculty continue to be recognized as scholars who also excel at teaching and community service – to central Indiana and beyond. Our most important task, promoting the ideals of a liberal education, remains paramount. There is much to be done, but also much to be proud of.

It is my pleasure to be part of the continued growth and development of this outstanding center for urban education. I will continue to keep you updated via this newsletter and its email version. If, anytime this year, you have thoughts to share, please do not hesitate to contact me at spike@iupui.edu.

Thank you,



Robert W. White
Acting Dean



Acting Dean Robert W. White



Miriam Langsam Retires



Associate Dean Miriam Langsam

It's difficult to imagine Liberal Arts without **Miriam Langsam**. After 17 years as associate dean for student affairs and 40 years as a member of the history department, Miriam will retire on August 31.

Over the years, Miriam has taught thousands of students, served on hundreds of committees, helped found several academic programs,

brought an academic honor society for adult students to campus, spearheaded the creation of the Young Scholars program, and worked to establish programs for students with disabilities.

Miriam is truly an unfailing advocate for every type of student. She has successfully navigated the thin line between meeting the needs of students and advancing the university's academic mission.

Joe Kuczowski, associate dean for academic programs and student development in the Purdue School of Science at IUPUI, said, "Miriam has been a servant leader, very conscious of the needs of students."

Not surprisingly, she has won numerous awards

honoring her as an outstanding administrator, faculty member and mentor

"I like to solve problems. I like to fix things. And I especially like to fix things for students and campus," Miriam said.

As she and others worked to make IUPUI and Liberal Arts what they are today, Miriam's sense of humor has come in handy.

"She's not shy about doing something silly or telling a joke to get people talking constructively," **Barbara Jackson** said. Jackson, professor of anthropology and associate

dean in University College, has known Miriam since 1974.

Miriam said of her decision to remain at IUPUI all these years, "I just stayed. It looked to me like we were going to build a university and that sounded exciting," Langsam said. "I've never regretted that decision."

Hats off to Miriam!
Thursday, August 28th, 4-6pm
University Place Hotel Ballroom
850 W. Michigan, Indianapolis
RSVP: 317.278.1839 or
mbrether@iupui.edu
Wear your favorite hat!

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Dr. Scott Seregny

(1950-2003)



Dr. Scott Seregny, professor of Russian history at IUPUI, died early in the morning of June 16, 2003 in Indianapolis. He had been battling cancer for three years. Dr. Seregny was born in Detroit on November 20, 1950. He said his interest in Russian history was kindled by the discovery of John Gunther's "Inside Russia Today" on his father's bookshelf.

In 1972 Dr. Seregny received a BA with honors in Russian Studies at the University of Michigan, where he went on to receive a doctorate in Russian history in 1982. He was highly regarded in his field as an expert on the educational system, peasant life and culture, and rural society of czarist Russia before the 1917 Revolution.

An active scholar, Dr. Seregny spent two years at the Russian Research Center at Harvard and was the recipient of many awards and fellowships, including several from the Fulbright Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities. He wrote a seminal study, "Russian Teachers and Peasant Revolution," co-edited a study of politics and society in rural

Russia, and produced over forty articles, book chapters, conference papers, reviews, and translations. At his death he was working on a study of rural politics in pre-revolutionary Russia and an article on post-Communist education.

Dr. Seregny's significant achievements as a scholar were matched by his accomplishments in the classroom. He felt teaching to be his main vocation and his popular classes were filled with students attracted by his reputation for high standards, engaging lectures, imaginative course design, and cutting-edge scholarship. He inspired many to pursue careers in education and during his illness his former students made sure he knew how deeply he had touched their lives.

Dr. Seregny's friends in Indianapolis and colleagues at IUPUI mourn the loss of a great friend--a gentle and courageous man whose advice, help, and encouraging words they could always count on. A pillar of the History Department, his collegiality, humor, and reassuring presence will be sorely missed.

Dr. Seregny is survived by his wife, Katie, his sister, Julie Mahoney, his mother, Dolores, and his brother, Jeffrey.

A memorial service will be held in early fall when IUPUI classes resume.

The family asks that memorial tributes be made in Dr. Seregny's name to the National Cancer Institute, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Dr. Rowland Sherrill

(1944-2003)



Chancellor's Professor and Millennium Chair, **Rowland A. "Tony" Sherrill** passed away on May 31, 2003.

A highly regarded member of both the Religious Studies and American Studies communities, Tony Sherrill received his B.A. from Eckerd College in 1966, M.A. in English from the University of Kentucky in 1968, and Ph.D. in religion and literature from the University of Chicago in 1975. He joined the English faculty at IUPUI in 1973 and immediately helped found the highly respected Religious Studies Department.

His scholarship and teaching centered on religion and American cultural expression, especially on the ways that unexpected religious energies and implications can be discerned in cultural forms and systems. The author of two books (*Road-Book America: Contemporary Culture and the New Picaresque* and *The Prophetic Melville: Experience, Transcendence, and Tragedy*), editor of one (*Religion and the Life of the Nation: American Recoveries*) and co-editor of another (*Religion, the*

Independent Sector, and *American Culture*, with C. Conrad Cherry), and over 100 articles, book chapters, reference work entries, and reviews, Tony left his mark on several scholarly communities. He was, since 1990, co-editor of *Religion and American Culture: A Journal of Interpretation*, published by the Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture, which he was instrumental in founding.

Tony received numerous prizes for his teaching and service, including the Indiana University Amoco Foundation Award for Distinguished Teaching in 1986, and the IUPUI Glenn W. Irwin Experience Excellence Award for Service in 1994. He was for fifteen years Chair of the Department of Religious Studies and for six years Director of the Center for American Studies. Tony was named Chancellor's Professor in 2001 and earlier this year, the first Millennium Chair of Liberal Arts. In May, he was awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters from Eckerd College, his alma mater.

Tony leaves behind his wife, Joy, two devoted children, Amy and John, three grandchildren and a host of grieving colleagues.

A memorial service was held in Indianapolis on June 5.

The family has requested that memorial gifts be made to the Rowland A. Sherrill Religious Studies Prize, in care of the IU Foundation, 50 S. Meridian, Suite 400, Indianapolis, IN, 46204.

Look back at the intersection

Notes from the Alumni Board

By Dan Henkel, BA '84, Comm & Theatre



Dan Henkel, circa 1984, in the now defunct Cavanaugh Hall audio studio.

*The ever-whirling wheel
Of Change; the which all
mortal things doth sway*
Edmund Spenser
(1552-1599)
"The Fairie Queene"

Though Spenser said it more elegantly, change is as certain as corn dogs at the Midway. We Hoosiers pride ourselves on constancy--think sunrise over the soybeans--but quick as a Bob Knight tantrum, industries restructure and a prosperous region joins the rust belt. What's true for corporations is equally so for individuals. To stand still is to perish.

Cradle to grave, we learn, evolve, transmogrify. Like corporations in the new millennium, we constantly rebrand and reinvent ourselves. A homemaker becomes a therapist; a file clerk learns financials; a retired chemist turns to teaching. Propelled by need or opportunity, we add skills, explore options, tweak our résumés.

Enter IUPUI--the urban

university as change agent. This institution sees the intersection of more lifelines than a palm-reader. Mellow and seasoned, callow and green, Hoosiers find their way to campus and never look back.

Each of us could tell a story of

intersection and evolution, of how this remarkable school figured in a life-change. Too often, we move on and forget. Take a moment now and recall how you first connected with IUPUI.

For me, the crossroads had signs a plenty. I was newly wed and ready for a career change. Almost 30, I'd been a musician with more pluck than promise. Forty years of music lessons and wedding gigs loomed ahead. Video-radio--essays and issues--mass media enthralled me, and I determined to be some sort of communicator. With the encouragement of my law-student wife, I enrolled in a couple of courses.

Before I knew it, I was a father and a graduate. Studies at IUPUI had complemented credits from four institutions from Chicago to Albuquerque, adding up to a bachelor's degree in communication and theatre. (Videotape was ¾" then; only the

clocks were digital.) Blustering my way into a practicum and a full-time communications job, I joined the downtown workforce and promoted myself from professional musician to amateur. My career developed; my family grew and my hairline receded. For years, in the thick of a hectic life, I gave little thought to IUPUI. The school had done its job and I'd moved on.

Years later, my work involved higher education issues and I grew to appreciate the role that IUPUI had played in my life. Talk of institutional mission, fitting student to school and programs of study made it clear: I was the classic non-traditional student, and my alma mater had served me well.

Bit by bit, I reconnected with the great urban university. I found myself talking enthusiastically about courses and profes-

sors, delighted to run into classmates and reminisce. Beloved faculty would not let go (thank you, **Dorothy Webb!**) A little committee work here, a small donation there and I was joined to a great nexus of students, faculty, staff and supporters.

What's your intersection with IUPUI? Where were you back when, and how did the urban university change your life? Look around and recall how you got where you are; who pointed the way, who halted traffic a bit while you found your way.

Now, it's your turn. Think about visiting a class or hosting an intern. Thank a professor or advisor who encouraged you. Chip in for a scholarship to ease someone else's transition. You'll feel better for doing good when it matters, and you'll love having re-connected.

Welcome to the intersection.

Featured Events

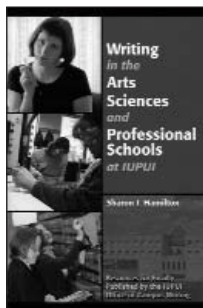
- Aug 18** Liberal Arts and University College Convocation
Lecture Hall 101
- Aug 28** Retirement Celebration for Miriam Langsam
University Place Hotel Ballroom, 4-6 pm
- Sept 12** Celebration of Scholarship
University Place Hotel Ballroom, 4-6 pm

SAVE THE DATE!
Saturday, September 13
Explore IUPUI
10 am-3 pm
Liberal Arts WORKS!
Luncheon, 12-1:30 pm

For more information
(317) 278-1839 LibArts@iupui.edu
<http://liberalarts.iupui.edu>

**Want more news? Send a message to
LibArts@iupui.edu to subscribe to the
Liberal Arts Alumni Email Newsletter!!**

BOOKSHELVES: Books by the Faculty of Liberal Arts



Writing in the Arts, Sciences, and Professional Schools. Sharon Hamilton, Editor. Rozelle, Australia: St. Clair Press, 2002.

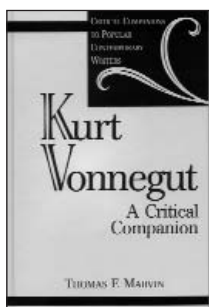
Making Basic Writing Political: Basic Writers and Basic Writing in the Contemporary Academy. Linda Adler-Kassner and Susanmarie Harrington. Cresskill, NJ: Hampton Press, 2002.

Adler-Kassner and Harrington argue that basic writing instruction often perpetuates an autonomous model of literacy that separates writing and reading from the contexts in which they are situated. Thus, rather than helping students gain purchase by familiarizing them with the culture of the "academic community," the opposite is achieved. The authors suggest new curricular strategies for basic writing classes and new terms for conversations about basic writing, arguing that these will help writers and others to develop connections between writing and culture and will make basic writing a political act.

English Novel Explication: Supplement VII. Christian Kloesel. North Haven, CT: Archon Books, 2002.

The seventh such supplement since 1976, *English Novel Explication: Supplement VII* is (as the title intimates) a bibliographic reference work for those who would find

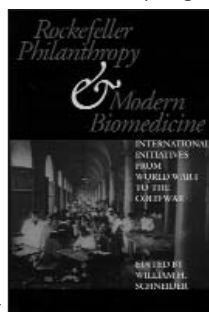
articles and books that focus on the interpretation of the significance and meaning of the English novel (broadly defined). The English novel includes works from the Middle Ages through the present, and each supplement covers about four or five years of criticism.



Kurt Vonnegut: A Critical Companion. Thomas F. Marvin. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2002.

Rockefeller Philanthropy & Modern Biomedicine: International Initiatives From World War I to the Cold War. William H. Schneider. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2002.

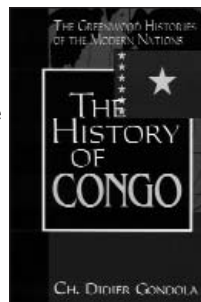
The eight case studies in this edited volume show in detail how the Rockefeller Foundation's gifts affected medical research, education, and public health in Europe, the Soviet Union, and China between World War I and the Cold War. Despite the Foundation's goal to help countries with established medical research programs, major advances were achieved in several countries that did not have a notable history in medical research. In other circum-



stances, however, the Rockefeller Foundation was confronted with local cultural and political imperatives that reshaped or weakened its objectives. The book offers important lessons regarding the situations in which international philanthropy is likely to be most effective.

The History of Congo. Ch. Didier Gondola. Westport, CT, and London: Greenwood Press, 2002.

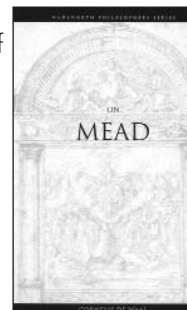
Beginning with a survey of Congo's early history, when diverse peoples such as the Luba, the Kuba, and the Nilotic inhabited the area, this book traces the country's history through the Belgian period of colonization and the dictatorships of Mobutu and Kabila. Biographical portraits present important figures in Congo's storied history. An annotated bibliography and chronology help make this the most current and accessible introduction to this fascinating, complex, and long-suffering nation.



On Mead. Cornelius de Waal. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, 2002.

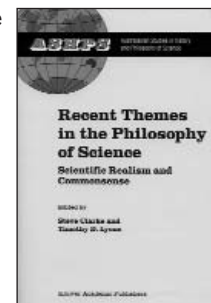
On Mead is a systematic but concise account of the philosophy and social psychology of George Herbert Mead (1863-1931). Starting from Mead's philosophy of the act and his

conceptions of space and time, attention is given to the emergence and development of (human) selves within the process of interaction, and the emergence and nature of language, mind, and social institutions. Also discussed are Mead's notion of role playing, his distinction between the "I" and the "me," and his conception of morality.



Recent Themes in the Philosophy of Science: Scientific Realism and Commonsense. S. Clarke and T. D. Lyons, Editors. Australasian Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science, Vol. 17. Dordrecht, Netherlands: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2002.

This volume is a collection of original, thematically-related papers written by prominent figures in the philosophy of science. These contributed papers focus on two fundamental issues in contemporary philosophy of science, the status of scientific realism and the relationship between science and commonsense. The contemporary scientific realism debate turns on the viability of the claims that science aims at truth and that we can justifiably believe that science has achieved or



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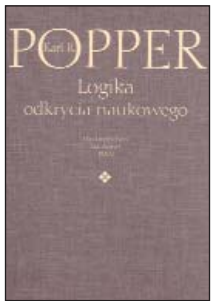


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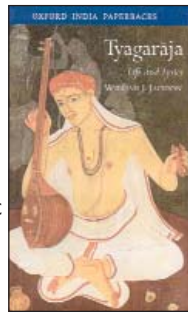
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BOOKSHELVES *continued*

approximated this aim. Several papers constitute original contributions to this debate. Others explore what appears to be an increasingly divergent relationship between the scientific and common-sense images of the world.

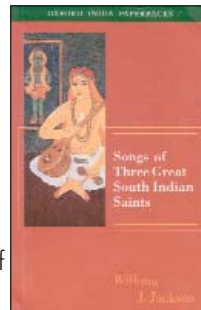


Logika odkrycia naukowego.
 A translation to Polish of *The Logic of Scientific Discovery* by Karl Popper.
 2nd edition.
Ursula Niklas.
 Warsaw: PWN, 2002.



Tyagaraja: Life and Lyrics.
 New revised edition.
William Jackson.
 Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2002.
 Tyagaraja was a South Indian musician saint (1767-1847), sometimes called "the Beethoven of South India." This book explores the stories about his life, and the symbolism of music as a spiritual path in South Indian music. The author selected and translated

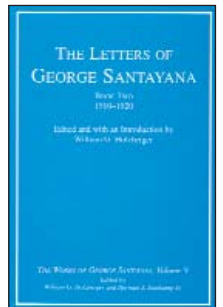
over one hundred lyrics from the seven hundred surviving Telugu original songs written by Tyagaraja.



Songs of Three Great South Indian Saints.
 Revised edition.
William Jackson.
 Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2002.
 Three singer-saints flourishing around 1500 during South India's Vijayanagara empire's heydays are still revered today. Annamacharya,

Kanakadasa, and Purandaradasa each composed hundreds of songs, many of which are still sung today. This book introduces their lives and contributions to South Indian culture, and presents translations of some of their memorable representative songs.

The Letters of George Santayana. Book Three: 1921 - 1927.
Herman J. Saatkamp, Jr. (General Editor) and **Marianne Woceck** (Editor).
 Cambridge (MA): MIT Press, 2002.



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 Online: <http://www.iupui.edu/~alumrels/membership.html>
 Phone: Stefan Davis, (317) 274-8828.