

BIOLOGY

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Indiana University
Alumni Newsletter

Biology honors illustrious faculty Pace, Palmer

Two members of the Biology faculty received recognition in 1991 for their work in their respective areas of research. Norm Pace and Jeff Palmer were honored at a departmental reception.

Pace was elected to membership in the prestigious National Academy of Sciences at the organization's annual meeting last April. Election to membership is considered one of the highest honors a scientist can receive.

Pace, who is conducting research in protein-nucleic acid interaction, is the only non-retired Biology faculty member to hold this honor. Departmental retirees John Preer, Charles Heiser, Anthony San Pietro, and Frank Putnam are also members of the National Academy. David Dilcher, who is now at the University of Florida, was elected to membership while part of the IU Biology faculty.

Pace also was chosen to join the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in May. The two organizations recognized him for his research in the field of RNA processing; he is the co-discoverer of catalytic RNA.

"Indiana University is a fine place to do research and a great place to earn an education," says Pace. He earned his bachelor's degree from IU in Microbiology in 1964.

Pace's parents, who attended the reception, expressed great pride in their son's accomplishments. While they always supported his interest in science and were certain of his success, the Paces said they did admit to a moment or two of doubt when one of young Norm's high school science projects blew up in their basement!

Jeff Palmer received the David Starr Jordan Prize for his revolutionary work in chloroplast evolution. He has been credited with creating the field of molecular plant systematics.

"All along the way, (Palmer) has done things that were exceptional," says Professor Winslow Briggs of Stanford University. "When he completed his PhD he had amassed a publication record that would be the envy of any assistant professor in his fourth or fifth year anxiously awaiting tenure. He was the only grad student I know to receive letters from people who wished to do a postdoctoral with him." Briggs, who served as chair on Palmer's graduate thesis committee, says Palmer "sometimes caused the committee to tear its hair because he was so interested in science he didn't want to be bothered by mundane administrative matters."

Briggs remembers that Palmer had been at Stanford for



Jeff Palmer, left, and Norm Pace at awards ceremony

2½ years when it was discovered he hadn't complied with routine administrative requirements such as applying for admission to candidacy and submitting a thesis proposal. "Needless to say, a few minor administrative matters were quickly taken care of, and it didn't slow him down a bit," Briggs says. "He finished beautifully in four years."

The \$15,000 David Starr Jordan Prize was established by Indiana, Cornell, and Stanford Universities to recognize young scientists engaged in pioneering research worldwide. The three universities all had an affiliation with Jordan at some time during his career.

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Environmental activism is graduate's career

While studying at IU, Sam LaBudde, BA '86 Biology, was a quiet, slender, young man in his late 20s who favored long hair and the regulation student garb of jeans and backpack. He wandered into Biology's undergraduate office one day in search of an old test from the department's exam file.

Much to our surprise, LaBudde didn't respond with the usual fervent "I'll need it," when someone wished him luck on the test. Instead, he replied, "I don't trust the lady." Since graduation, his refusal to rely on Lady Luck hasn't changed.

Also far from typical was his reply to our standard letter asking new grads to inform us of their choice of career. LaBudde wrote in 1988 to say he'd worked on a foreign tuna fishing boat as an 'eco-spy' for two West Coast environmental groups, the Earth Island Institute and the Marine Mammal Fund.

Initially hired as a general crewman, he spent five months on the boat, later serving as the ship's cook. At great personal risk, LaBudde managed to take the first unstaged footage of dolphins being slaughtered during the harvesting of tuna.

The resulting tape, aired on national news programs, prompted many U.S. consumers to boycott tuna. LaBudde was asked to testify before Congress on the issue, and the boycott he inspired helped convince canners to purchase "dolphin-safe" tuna.

LaBudde's efforts were recognized last year, when he was one of six recipients of the second Goldman Environmental Prize, which *Time* (April 29, 1991) referred to as the Nobel Prize of the green movement. The recipients, chosen from an international pool of nominees, each received \$60,000.

According to a Goldman Foundation brochure, the

prize is meant to provide grass-roots environmentalists with international recognition to enhance their credibility. It also brings worldwide visibility for the issues these environmentalists champion, as well as the freedom to pursue their visions of a renewed and protected environment without financial constraints.

"I gave the money away to fund people doing undercover field work similar to what I did."

—Sam LaBudde, one of the recipients of the second Goldman Environmental prize

LaBudde, who works as a research biologist at the Earth Island Institute, says that he used his \$60,000 prize to support work similar to his own. "I basically gave the money away to help endangered species by administering a project to fund people doing undercover field work similar to what I did," he says. "They're recording such things as the destruction of watersheds in India and documenting the traffic in endangered species in Southeast Asia. There's a large demand for visual documentation of issues some people don't necessarily want photographed."

LaBudde's accomplishments are impressive. But they're not too surprising when one remembers that he doesn't rely on Lady Luck to solve his—or the environment's—problems.



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU . . .

IU's Department of Biology and the Alumni Association are always interested to learn about alumni and their activities. Please send your news or change of address to Alumni Publications, P.O. Box 4822, Bloomington, IN 47402-4822.

Name _____ Degree/date _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Current position/employer _____

News of promotions, publications, awards, personal achievements, etc.

Biology Alumni Newsletter

is published annually by the Indiana University Alumni Association, in cooperation with the Department of Biology and the College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Association, to encourage alumni interest in and support for Indiana University.

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One Generation author honors Payne

The late Florence Flemion Miller, BA'26, titled her memoirs *One Generation Speaks*. This lively account contains anecdotes of her childhood spent on an Indiana farm, recollections of her IU years, and a chronicle of her scientific career.

Miller recalled her surprise when a high school teacher encouraged her to pursue a science career. Science as a profession for women was unheard of in those days, but that didn't stop her from heading to Bloomington at the age of 21 to enroll at IU. She registered for a variety of classes, including one on experimental evolution taught by Fernandus Payne. "His second lecture sealed my fate, and from then on it was science for me," she wrote.

It was Payne who recommended Miller for a research position with the Carnegie Institute for Experimental Evolution at Cold Spring Harbor in New York. She left the Carnegie Institute to work as a plant physiologist at the Boyce-Thompson Institute for Plant Research, where she remained until retirement. While there she produced more than 60 publications based upon her research.



Photo courtesy of the Schaefer family

Florence Flemion Miller, BA '26 Zoology, in a photo taken shortly after her graduation from IU

At Boyce-Thompson, Miller met and married her husband, Lawrence. Although she used her married name socially, she always published her research findings under Flemion to avoid confusion with literary references.

Some of Miller's most productive work centered on research done with plants from the *Umbelliferae* family. In the late 1930s, war-battered Great Britain was eager to

supplement what food it could obtain with plants from this family, including dill weed and carrots. The plants, however, had a very poor germination rate.

The British government wrote to the Boyce-Thompson Institute, asking if the scientists could determine the problem. Since several important crop plants belong to the *Umbelliferae* family, the institute agreed to help and assigned the problem to Miller.

"The visit, the changed campus, the jog down memory lane, was momentous for Aunt Florence at age 87. The warmth and love she felt for IU were again rekindled by the kindness of the alumni and Biology department staff."

— Judith Schaefer, Miller's niece, on her aunt's return to Bloomington in 1989

Her research determined that an insect, the *Lygus*, was at fault. The insect would feed on a seed and drain its embryonic semifluid, thus destroying the seed's ability to produce a plant.

The *Lygus* also causes similar damage to plants such as sugar beets, alfalfa, beans, and cotton. Instead of recommending a chemical insecticide that also would destroy beneficial insects, Miller suggested stocking affected fields with the carnivorous flying ladybird beetle, a natural enemy of *Lygus*.

Miller's research results were presented at several American Association for the Advancement of Science meetings and at the eighth International Botanical Congress in Paris in 1954. While attending the Fourteenth International Horticultural Congress in Holland in 1955, she was presented to Queen Juliana, who expressed appreciation for Miller's research.

Miller and her husband both retired in 1966. After her retirement she located Payne, who was then living in a Lebanon, Ind., nursing home. "I personally expressed to him my deep appreciation for the tremendous influence he had on my scientific career," Miller wrote.

In 1989, Miller made a visit to the IU campus. "The visit, the changed campus, the jog down memory lane, was...momentous for Aunt Florence at age 87," her niece, Judith Schaefer, says. "The warmth and love she felt for IU were again rekindled by the kindness of the alumni and Biology department staff."

When Miller died the next year, she left the Department of Biology a large bequest in honor of Payne, to be used for research purposes. Schaefer says that her aunt's days at IU "had culminated in this woman's many accomplishments...I think Aunt Florence is exemplified in the 'spirit' of Indiana University."

All aboard the science mobile!

Laboratory-equipped van makes learning fun for elementary students

High school teachers often bemoan student attitudes toward science. Many have found that years of rote memorization of facts tend to turn pupils off to the subject. Working to solve this problem is the Science Mobile Project, funded by Biology's Howard Hughes Undergraduate Initiative grant.

The Science Mobile, a laboratory-equipped van, travels to elementary schools in East Chicago, Gary, and Hammond, Ind., to present half-day interactive, hands-on science activities to fifth-graders. The goal of this collaborative project between the IU Bloomington and IU Northwest campuses is to create increased interest in the sciences, especially among minorities and females.

Specially trained middle school and high school teachers travel with the van to participating elementary schools. Host teachers from the various elementary schools undergo a training session to familiarize them with Science Mobile activities. They also conduct pre-visit exercises to prepare their students for the van's visit.

For the 1991-92 curriculum, host teachers help the children to build a simple microscope using two convex plastic lenses glued to a piece of PVC pipe, learn geologic terms for the earth science lesson on mineral composition, hatch brine shrimp for a biological study on the environmental factor of salinity, and learn lab safety for the chemistry section on crystals and powders. These pre-visit exercises are designed to increase student excitement before the Science Mobile's visit.

Like the pre-visit exercises, Science Mobile activities are designed to keep children actively involved in science, instead of being passive observers. All activities take an interdisciplinary approach to science. For instance, the physics unit on reflecting light is taught in conjunction with a math unit on angles.

Many of the materials used at the visit sport colorful depictions of the Science Mobile logo, designed by graphic artist Mary Blizzard. This logo can be found on aprons worn by the children, on the questionnaires they fill out, and on the buttons they are given as mementos of the visit. The buttons, done in bright neon colors kids love, proudly declare "I Rode the Science Mobile" (above).

After each visit, host elementary schools are given a piece of scientific equipment (this year, a Fisher Scientific dissecting microscope). Teachers also pursue a unit of follow-up activities with the children.

Students also respond to pre- and post-visit question-

naires designed to assess changes in their attitudes about science. Using a Likert Scale ranging from "strongly agree" to "strongly disagree," children are asked to respond to such statements as, "I can name a famous scientist of my race," and "Women make good scientists."

Following the first trial visit last November at Harding Elementary School in Hammond, Ind., host elementary teachers Kathleen Eldridge and Donna Elliott wrote to say they believe that programs like this will help U.S. President

George Bush reach his goal of making American students first in the world in science and mathematics achievements. "We

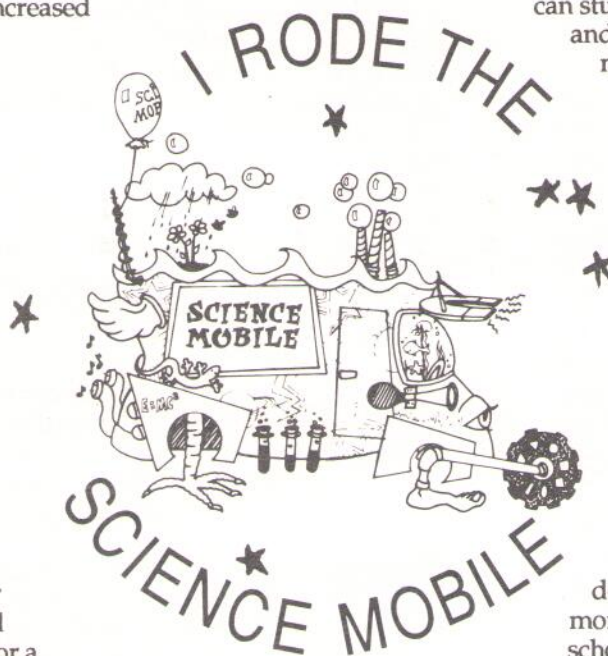
must continue to support and encourage the efforts of these [Science Mobile] professionals, who have a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm and an unselfish dedication to improving the minds of our young people," Eldridge and Elliott wrote.

Student response to the Science Mobile has been tremendous. Many say they were nervous before the sessions began, but were delighted to learn they could successfully complete the experiments. Many Harding Elementary students eagerly demanded, "Can you come back next month?" or "Can you visit my middle school next year?"

That's exactly what project co-directors Nancy Dustman and Cathi Eagan hoped to do. Following a two-year

expanded program in the Lake County area, Dustman, a Morton Senior High School science teacher, and Eagan, assistant director of the HHMI Undergraduate Initiative on the IUB campus, want to expand the program to include other school corporations in Indiana and surrounding states.

Response has been so favorable that the Science Mobile was chosen as one of seven programs to be presented to the Indiana state legislators, who traveled to Bloomington on Dec. 3 for "An Afternoon of Academics and the Arts." The meeting was designed to better familiarize legislators with the campus, to make them aware of the University's accomplishments, and to further explain the budgetary effects of state cutbacks. The Science Mobile was featured as a half-time segment during the broadcast of the Hoosier Classic basketball game in December. IU President Thomas Ehrlich devoted an entire issue of his monthly newsletter, *President's Partners*, to this project. The newsletter is distributed to 1,200 alumni, corporate representatives, and legislators throughout the state.



Science Mobile Button

Art by Mary Blizzard

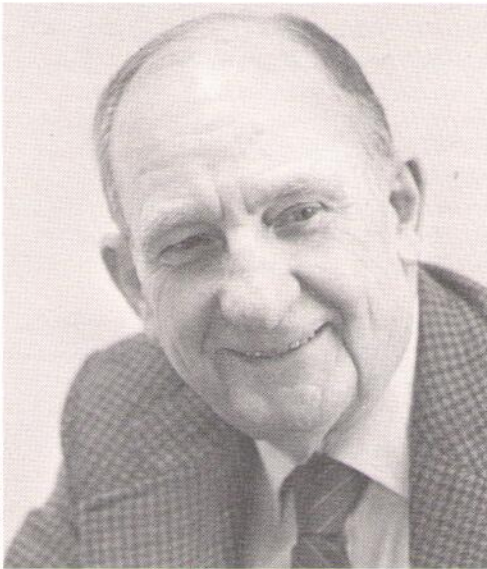
In memoriam

Marcus Rhoades 1903-1991

Marcus Rhoades, distinguished professor emeritus of genetics, died at age 88 on Dec. 30, 1991. Rhoades was a leading authority on the genetics of corn. His work led to the development of hybrid corn and crop improvements such as the use of male sterile plants to avoid the need for

detasseling female parent plants.

Rhoades was a key founder of the Maize Genetics Cooperation, established to share working research information on the genetics and cytogenetics of corn. The next issue of their publication, *The Maize Genetics Cooperation News Letter*, will be dedi-



Marcus Rhoades

cated to Rhoades. This seems a fitting tribute to the man who was responsible for the preparation of this annual newsletter from 1956 to 1974.

Rhoades held the distinction of being one of the few scientists in the United States to have been elected to membership in the American Philosophical Society, the National Academy of Sciences, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He was the Genetics Society of America's first recipient of the Thomas Hunt Morgan Medal, given in recognition of Rhoades' lifetime contribution to genetics. The Botanical Society of America recognized his accomplishments by presenting him with a Certificate of Merit Award.

Rhoades joined the IU faculty in 1958 and served as chairman of the Botany Department for 10 years. Although he retired in 1974, he still continued his research. Three years ago, when his long-time assistant, Ellen Dempsey, retired, everyone thought Rhoades would stop working. However, the two continued to work in the cornfields each summer, checking the results of their experiments.

Rhoades is survived by his wife of 60 years, Virginia Hatcher Rhoades; their two sons, Marcus M. Rhoades Jr. and William D. Rhoades; three grandchildren; and his sister Ruth Hay. In accordance with his wishes, no funeral service was held. In the spring, however, his ashes will be quietly scattered among the cornfields he worked and loved for so many years.

John Sinclair 1935-1991

John Sinclair, a member of the IU Biology faculty, died on Oct. 28, 1991, after a battle with cancer. The department doesn't seem the same without him.

Sinclair joined the department in 1968 as a zoologist and served as chairman of the Zoology Department from 1973 to 1976. He conducted research in mitochondrial DNA biogenesis and was a two-time recipient of the Biology Senior Class Teaching Award. Sinclair also was a great advocate of the independent research class Biology L490, believing that hands-on research experience was invaluable training for our undergraduates.

A prominent breeder of Welsh ponies, he belonged to the Welsh Ponies and Cob Society of America. A few years ago, Sinclair established the Fox Glen Research and Education Fund to support research he was conducting on horse breeding.

Sinclair is survived by his wife, Sabina Wagner Sinclair. Other surviving family members include his son, Eric D. Sinclair; his mother, Leetie Sinclair; and five brothers.

When Sinclair became very ill, he turned control of the Fox Glen account over to Biology's chair, Tom Blumenthal. Knowing of Sinclair's interest in the Biology L490 program, Blumenthal arranged to have the funds used to support undergraduate research. This seems a fitting way to remember the man who so strongly recommended laboratory experience to our students.



John Sinclair with former Biology L490 student Michele Congdon

Kevin Hurchison

Alumni news

Please note that the IUAA has moved from the IMU to Fountain Square, on the south side of the Courthouse Square. The new address is IU Alumni Association, Fountain Square, Suite 219, P.O. Box 4822, Bloomington, IN 47402-4822. Phone 812/855-4822. The IUAA expects to be in these temporary quarters for about three years.

1960s

W. Hardy Eshbaugh, MA'61 Plant Science, PhD'64 Plant Science. Professor of botany at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. Recently awarded the university's prestigious Benjamin Harrison award for his outstanding national contribution to education. Current research is focused on the evolution and domestication of chili peppers.

1970s

Marian Noelle Beremand, PhD'79 Plant Science. Associate professor in Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology, Texas A & M University. Married to Phillip D. Beremand. Has one son, Robert Beremand. She is an assistant scout leader and a community education volunteer. Enjoys ice skating and gardening.

Stan Eisen, MA'74, PhD'78 Zoology. Biology department head at Christian Brothers University.

Bruce Gingles, BA'77 Biological Sciences. Director of sales & marketing at Cook Critical Care, a division of Cook Inc., Bloomington. Married to Mary Ann Gingles.

Lorrence H. Green, MA'74, PhD'78. Recently elected to the position of vice chairman of the microbiology section of the New York Academy of Sciences, an internationally known organization.

Sheila A. Henry, BA'68 Biology, MAT'74 Biology. Seventh-grade science teacher at Tri-North Middle School, Bloomington. Married to John "Bo" Henry, aquatics director and head wrestling coach at Bloomington High School North. The couple has a son, Robert Bo. Enjoys traveling, especially out West.

Gene Kritsky, PhD, BA'74 Biological Sciences. Professor and chair of biology at the College of Mount St. Joseph. Adjunct curator of entomology at the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History. Received PhD of Entomology in 1977, University of Illinois. Married to Yvonne Kritsky, who attended IU from 1972-74. He is involved with a public program on natural history evolution and is the precinct committeeman of the Dearborn County Democratic Party. Enjoys insect collecting and fossil collecting.

Joseph L. Meek, BA'71. Working at the Greenwood Dental Group since July 1990 in Greenwood, Ind.

Catherine E. Meyer, BS'76, MA'79 Biological Sciences. Working for the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, fish and wildlife division. Also involved in environmental education and is a part-time ski instructor. She has a daughter, Holly, and 50 birds. Breeds budgies and finches. Meyers is a member of The Nature Conservatory and likes photography, bird watching, skiing, and hiking. Would like to hear from BS Core people; she has a house available near campus for party.

Janis B. Rosenthal, BA'74 Biological Sciences. Partner at

Thompson Hine & Flory in Columbus, Ohio. Enjoys traveling.
Mark E. Scherschel, BA'72 Zoology. Re-elected to City Council in Bedford, Ind., in 1991.

Deborah Pancheri Wallace, BS'76 Microbiology, and **William Wallace**, BS'76, OD'80. She has worked as a microbiology technologist, most recently in Atlanta. He is vice president at Medical Care International, Dallas. Recently moved to Dallas after 10 years in Atlanta. The couple has a daughter, Elizabeth, and a cat, Muffin. They enjoy returning to Bloomington to visit IU and family members.

Douglas H. Webb, BA'75 Biological Sciences, MD'78. **Rosalind Harris Webb**, BA'74 Biological Sciences, MD'78. She is chief of nuclear medicine and staff radiologist at St. Vincent Hospital, Indianapolis. Likes reading and gardening. He is infectious diseases specialist at Methodist Hospital, Indianapolis. The Webbs have three children: Christopher, Maritza, and Mallory.

1980s

Joseph G. Chesak, BS'89 Biology. Working on MBA at Case Western Reserve University and doing part-time medical research in Cleveland. Formerly worked in Ann Arbor in an AIDS research lab.

Alan D. Factor, BA'81 Biology. Graduated from the biomedical sciences program of the City University of New York at Mount Sinai. Plans to work in the pharmaceutical industry. Enjoys computers and skiing.

Ann Farrer, BS'86 Biology, DDS'90. Currently practicing in Bloomington.

Bradley J. Fiscus, BA'89 Biology. He is a junior high science teacher, teaches more than 170 seventh and eighth-graders. He also is head varsity wrestling coach, junior high wrestling coach, and junior high football coordinator-head coach. Runs a two-week elementary wrestling camp for first through sixth grade boys. Works summers at a student leadership camp. He enjoys all sports, camping, fishing, and politics. His wife, **Michelle D. Sassé**, BS'90 Biology, is attending the IU School of Medicine in Indianapolis.

Irene C. Frentz, BS'89 Microbiology. Working in Dr. Clay's lab in Jordan Hall as a technician at IUB; work focuses on fungi. Plans to go to graduate school, depending on when and where husband goes after his postdoc. Married since 1987, sings in the Purdue extension choir, likes hiking and aerobics when time allows.

David Gillies, BS'89 Microbiology. Laboratory technician for a company that makes media for diagnostic purposes in hospital laboratories and for testing in industry. Will go into sales with Remel in the near future, currently in quality control learning the product.

Ricki Lewis, PhD'80 Genetics. Lecturer at the State University of New York at Albany, where she teaches human genetics, general biology, bioethics, and nutrition. She has had more than 300 scientific journal articles published in a variety of periodicals. She is also a genetic counselor and a reviewer for *The New York Times Book Review*. Will be keynote speaker at IU Biology department's Biofest'92 on Feb. 19.

Lea Marlow, BS'87 Biology. Graduated from IU medical school and practicing family medicine in Cheyenne, Wyo.

Elizabeth A. Reuter, BS'86 Biology. Studied medicine at the University of Osteopathic Medicine & Health Sciences in Des Moines, Iowa. Practicing in Michigan.

Dan D. Smith, BS'89 Biology. Received MS in physiology at IUPUI and is now attending IU medical school.

1990s

Jeannette G. Alexander, BA'90 Biology. Received BS in cytotechnology from IU School of Medicine, May 1991. Accepted a position at Deaconess Medical Center in Billings, Mont.

Michael M. Alvarez, BS'90 Biology. Attending IU School of Optometry. Worked as a lab technician and as an environmental scientist for the state of Indiana.

Shelly Barrett, BS'90 Biology. Working as a research assistant at the University of Chicago, nephrology section. Plans to get master's and PhD in biopsychology.

Kelly J. Cadwell, BA'90 Biology. Promoted to analytical chemist at Chemical Waste Management, Riverdale, Ill.

Steve Checroun, BS'90 Biology. Enrolled in the IU School of Medicine, Indianapolis.

Andrea D. Cramer, BA'90. assistant research scientist, toxicology, at Miles Inc.

Jay M. Dutton, BS'90 Biology. Attending medical school this fall at the University of Iowa. Spent summer and free time doing research on cochlear implants and is presently considering a career in otolaryngology. Enjoys biking, playing basketball, and frequenting Fitzpatrick's Irish Pub in Iowa City.

Peter Eichert, BS'90 Biology. Supervisor in the QC microbiology assay Lab for Pitman-Moore Inc., Terre Haute.

Damian S. Eversman, BS'90 Biology. Now a medical student at IU, Indianapolis.

Michelle Sasse Fiscus, BS'90 Biology. Enrolled at IU School of Medicine, Indianapolis. Married **Bradley J. Fiscus**, BA'89 Biology, in June 1990. Currently residing in Westfield, Ind.

Christopher C. Frye, BS'90 Microbiology. Associate microbiologist in research and development, Eli Lilly and Co. Married to Kerri Spicer Frye; the couple has a brand-new baby boy named Christian Corbin. Building a new home in Bloomington.

William K. Grim, BA'90 Biology. Technical sales representative for Chemcentral, Louisville. Hobbies include tennis and jogging. Has a pet dog.

Kathryn L. Hagen, BS'90 Biology. Working on PhD in the Institute for Developmental Biology program, University of Cincinnati. Has a pet chinchilla named Pfladdermaus. Plays on two softball teams and is teaching children how to swim. Soon to be volunteer at children's hospital.

Matt B. Helmen, BS'90 Biology. Second-year medical student at IU School of Medicine's Terre Haute branch.

Dennis N. Hughes, BS'90 Microbiology. Assistant scientist at Schering-Plough, Union, N.J. Working to optimize expression of interleukins.

Ted R. Judy, BA'90 Biology. Working at The Fish Gallery, Bloomington. Plans to become a professional aquatist, aspires to earn PhD. Engaged to be married in March 1992 to Deborah Brewer of Martinsville. He is active in the local Chamber of Commerce.

Amy J. Krauss, BS'90 Biology. Second-year graduate student, working on master's degree in public affairs with a concentration in natural resource management. Did an internship with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources in the Peregrine Falcon (a federally endangered species) Restoration Project; the project released seven chicks in downtown Indianapolis last summer.

Sigrid Madding, BS'90 Biology. Second-year dental student who hopes to start a private practice soon after graduation.

Margaret Tomczyk Marksthaler, BA'90 Biology. Human resources specialist in employee relations, Globe Glass & Mirror Co., Chicago. Married Jeffrey Marksthaler in May 1991.

Michael E. Menke BS'90 Microbiology. Plant molecular biologist for Dow Elanco. Working on obtaining tissue-specific promoters to drive expression of insect toxins that will make corn plants insect resistant. Plans to attend law school for either patent or environmental law. Engaged to be married to Joanna Impola. He is a United Way citizen review panelist working on a program review of United Way Agencies and allocation of funding.

Lynn Moehl, BS'90 Biology. Currently a second-year student at IU School of Dentistry.

Robert V. Osborne, BA'90 Biology. Working for Berlex Laboratories as a pharmaceutical sales representative. Living in Melbourne, Fla.

Richard Prall, BS'90 Biology. Attending IU School of Medicine, Bloomington.

Gary D. Riddle, BS'90 Biology. Attending IU medical school.

Michele D. Roberts, BS'90 Biology. Will finish a master's degree in physiology, August 1991. Member of the 1995 class of the IU School of Medicine. She is engaged to Kenneth Ray Stookey, BS'88 Core Biology with Honors. He is currently a doctoral candidate in physiology, IU School of Medicine.

Amy Rogge, BS'90 Biology. At IU pursuing master's degree in environmental science in the School of Public Affairs. Considering a PhD in Biology (Microbiology, study in degradation of environmental toxins) or law school, focusing on environmental law. Is a part-time academic advisor for the Honors Division at IU.

Thomas M. Swiss, BA'90 Biology. Just finished degree in medical technology. May do missionary work or work with the poor.

Heidi Swygard, BS'90 Biology. Attending IU School of Medicine, will graduate in 1994. Married to Robert F. Ahlgrim Jr., a 1989 graduate of the School of Business who is planning to finish IU Law School in 1992.

Heather C. Thornburg, BA'90 Biology. Is a first-year dental student at the University of Louisville. Worked for a year at a local hospital following graduation.

Micah A. Winston, BA'90 Biology. Living in hometown of Amherst, Mass. Working as production assistant on the materials team at National Evaluation Systems Inc. Volunteers once a week to run a chess clinic at the local county jail. Married Nitza Kaldess of Rehovot, Israel, in Israel in January 1991.

Darren P. Wirthwein, BS'90 Biology. Attending IU School of Medicine. Involved in research in the clinical pharmacology section.

Perry W. Younger, BS'90 Biology. Second-year medical student at the University of Minnesota. He appreciated his biology instructors at IU and says that IU's student services beat Minnesota's by a long shot!

Departmental Friend

Isabel M. Mountain, PhD. Retired; formerly did medical research, especially on polio vaccine. Has two sisters and nieces. Living in retirement community. Volunteer at Smithsonian Institution Insect Zoo. Enjoys gardening, book club.

Lecture series promotes women in sciences

Joan Wood spent 12 years (1969-1981) in the Biology Department, earning two Plant Science degrees and a doctorate in Genetics. After leaving Bloomington to attend the IU medical school, she remained in close contact with many members of the department.

Wood returned to Bloomington to establish a private medical genetics practice. An enthusiastic advocate of her field, she served as a departmental resource person, speaking with any student interested in a genetics career.

Although she was undergoing treatment for cancer, Wood agreed to speak about medical genetics at a departmental Career Night in February 1990. Despite her illness, she gave a lively, informative talk. The undergraduate women in the audience enthusiastically responded to her presentation. Wood encouraged them to consider a career in medical genetics. The field was challenging, provided a good living, and allowed time for a family. Wood especially valued her private



Annalese Poorman

*Catherine Palmer, PhD'53
Plant Science, delivered the first
Joan Wood Lecture.*

practice because it enabled her to spend more time with her young son.

Her career in medical genetics was featured in a fall 1990 issue of the department's undergraduate newsletter. Shortly after the article appeared, Wood died on Sept. 15, at age 38. Knowing of her commitment to Biology, Wood's family worked with the department to establish the Joan Wood Lecture Series.

The lecture series seeks to provide positive role models for female science students by having women professionals speak at IU about their careers. Student response to the series has been extremely positive.

To date, three speakers have given Joan Wood Lectures: Catherine Palmer, human genetics; Barbara Fruehling Gambill, environmental law; and Wendy Boss, plant research. Lucy Shapiro, a developmental biologist, is scheduled to give the fourth Joan Wood Lecture on April 15. The series is a wonderful way to promote interest in the sciences and to honor a very special woman.

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