

# Biology

Ψ INDIANA UNIVERSITY

## Alumni Newsletter

Spring 2008/Vol.16, No. 1

### College of Arts & Sciences Alumni Association

**Membership Matters.** This publication is paid for in part by dues-paying members of the Indiana University Alumni Association.

## New digs: Simon Hall provides badly needed research space

Simon Hall, Indiana University's new multidisciplinary science building, opened for business this fall. Adequate research space is a continuing problem for the Bloomington campus, and Simon Hall's construction marked the first time in nearly 45 years that a building devoted entirely to scientific research was built.

Although the structure was officially dedicated on Tuesday, Oct. 16, researchers eagerly began moving into the facility as early as September. The dedication was part of "Celebrate IU Week," a series of events capped off by Michael McRobbie's inauguration as the university's 18th president.

President McRobbie presided over the Simon Hall dedication ceremony. Provost and Executive Vice President Karen Hanson and College of Arts and Sciences Dean Bennett I. Bertenthal spoke. Sidney Taurel, former chief executive officer of Eli Lilly & Co., gave keynote remarks. Professor Carl Bauer and student Michael Drazer, biology major and Wells Scholar, gave remarks as representatives of the scientists and students who will make use of the facility.

State funding provided 54 percent of the \$55.7 million required to build Simon Hall. The remainder of the funds came from private support. The Lilly Endowment contributed \$10 million toward the facility, and the building is named for the Simon family of Indianapolis who donated \$9 million.

Department of Biology alumni and their spouses provided major gifts to this project. These generous donors include M. Eugene Tardy Jr., MD; Martha A. Tardy; Charles O. McCormick III, MD; Janet R. McCormick; J. William Whitaker, MD; and Joan M. Whitaker. Departmental friends Richard and Ruth Johnson contributed to this project by establishing the Johnson Center for Entrepreneurship & Science Innovations.

In September, construction began on a second multidisciplinary science building on the Bloomington campus. This facility will provide laboratory and office space designed to encourage collaboration among scientists. The facility will house neuroscientists, biogeochemists, and environmental scientists.



Researchers began moving into Simon Hall this fall. The building was dedicated Oct. 16.

*He's back!*

## Palmer renamed chair of biology

Distinguished Professor Jeffrey D. Palmer began another term as chair of the Department of Biology on July 1. He replaces



Ashley Rider Mattingly

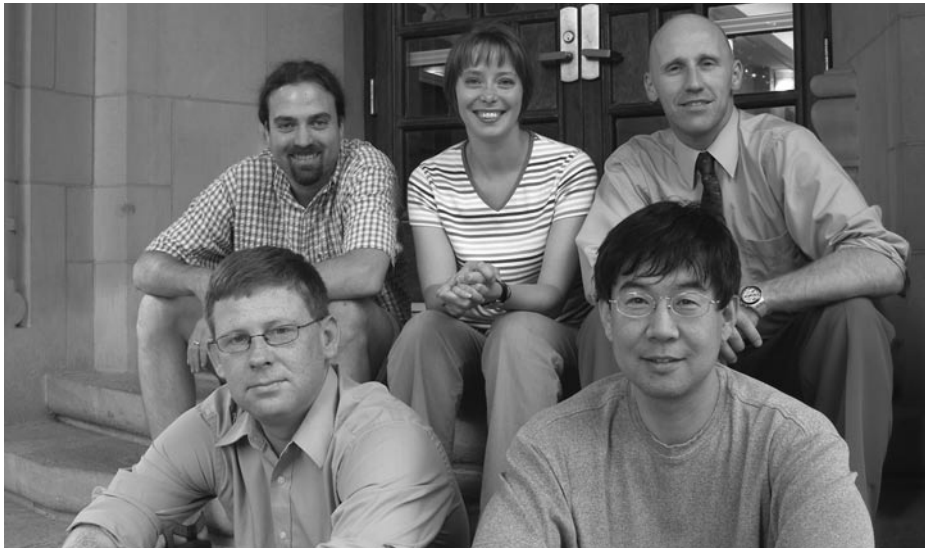
Professor

Elizabeth Raff, who led the department for the past five years. Palmer joined the department in 1989 and served as chair for six years prior to Raff's appointment. Palmer made a discovery in his lab that convinced him to give up his administrative duties in order to vigorously pursue the study of horizontal gene transfer in plants.

Palmer is a world leader in evolutionary genomics. He received the Distinguished Faculty Award from the College in 2004, earned the international David Starr Jordan Prize in 1990, and was elected to membership in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1999 and the National Academy of Sciences in 2000.

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Some of Biology's new faculty gather outside Myers Hall before an afternoon seminar. David Nelson, Kyung-Tai Min, Spencer Hall, Melanie Marketon, and Joe Pomerening are pictured.

## Biology participates in life sciences symposium during Celebrate IU Week

A science symposium, "Life Sciences in the 21st Century: From Discovery to Treatment," was held on the Bloomington campus in October. Moderated by Bennett I. Bertenthal, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, the symposium was part of "Celebrate IU Week."

Department of Biology faculty members Class of 1954 Endowed Professor **Carl Bauer** and Distinguished Professor and Class of 1955 Endowed Professor **Jeffrey Palmer** participated in the symposium. Bauer, who directs the Interdisciplinary Biochemistry Graduate Program, spoke on "Utilizing Interdisciplinary Science to Probe New Frontiers in Research."

Palmer's talk was entitled, "Gene Transfer Nature's Way or Why Does NIH Fund Research on Plant Genome Evolution?" Associate Professor **Claire Walczak**, an adjunct faculty member, also gave a presentation at the symposium that was entitled, "Targeting the Cell Division Machinery for Drug Development."

## Biology blossoms: seven join faculty

Biology welcomed many new faculty to the department in 2006 and 2007. Those arriving in 2006 included assistant professors **Melanie Marketon**, **David Nelson** and **Spencer Hall** and Associate Professor **Gregory Velicer**.

Marketon came to us from the University of Chicago where she was a postdoctoral fellow. Her research involves host-microbe interactions relating to plague pathogenesis. Nelson, who studies chlamydial virulence factors and host response, held a National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Postdoctoral Fellowship at Rocky Mountain Labs before joining the department.

Hall was a postdoctoral research associate at the University of Illinois Department of Animal Biology. His research involves the ecology of infectious disease and food-web interactions in freshwater environments. Velicer, who researches the ecology and evolution of bacterial social behavior, came from Germany's Max Planck Institute for Developmental Biology.

Assistant Professor **Joseph Pomerening** arrived during the spring 2007 semester. He studies signal transduction pathways governing early embryonic and somatic cell cycles. Pomerening held a postdoctoral fellowship at Stanford University's School of Medicine from 2000 to 2006.

**Jim Goodson** and **Kyung-Tai ("Tai") Min**, both associate professors, are our newest arrivals. Goodson came to Bloomington in the summer of 2007 from the University of California, San Diego, where he was a member of the psychology and neurosciences departments. His research interests include neural/neuroendocrine mechanisms of social behavior, comparative neuroanatomy, and the evolution of avian sociality.

Min arrived in September from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (2000-07). He studies the molecular mechanisms of Down Syndrome, neurological disorders, and aging.



Greg Velicer and Jim Goodson are pictured.

## Biology Alumni Newsletter

This newsletter is published 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 IU. For activities and membership information, call (800) 824-3044 or send e-mail to [iualumni@indiana.edu](mailto:iualumni@indiana.edu). Visit the **Department of Biology's Web site at [bio.indiana.edu](http://bio.indiana.edu)**.

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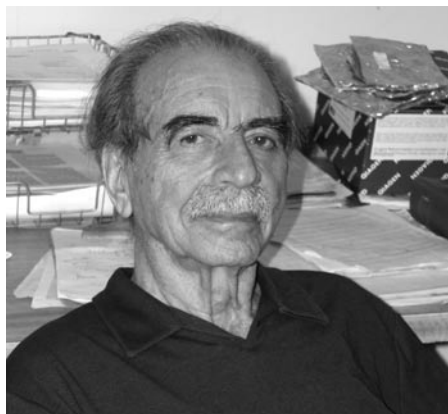
## Looking to the future, Drew Schwartz plans bequest for graduate fellowship

Professor Emeritus **Drew Schwartz** has mentored PhD students in the Department of Biology for over 40 years. He recently took steps to ensure that doctoral candidates will be taken care of long after he is gone, thanks to his establishment of a bequest. The department will receive \$129,000 for the creation of a fellowship to support doctoral candidates in genetics. The bequest is designed to further research in the field of genetics and to encourage others to give to Indiana University.

“Drew’s scientific acuity and tenacity are legendary,” Department Chair Jeffrey Palmer says. “I was privileged to take part in a celebration back in 1990 honoring his 70th birthday, an event that brought back to IU most of his many accomplished former graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. Little did I know that he would still be hard at work in Jordan Hall practically every day of the year, even now!”

Schwartz began his study of plant genetics at Pennsylvania State College. After majoring in horticulture, he decided to advance his studies and research in corn genetics, but not before serving time in the U.S. Army from 1942 until 1946. Schwartz enrolled at Columbia University, where he received an MA in 1948 and a PhD in 1950 from Columbia’s Department of Botany.

During the great expansion of molecular genetics, he worked at Oak Ridge Laboratory and Western Reserve University, which led him to Indiana University in 1964. Since then, Schwartz has made many genetic discoveries and analyses in maize. Some of his groundbreaking discoveries



Ashley Rider Mattingly

include the first case in higher organisms of the identification of the protein product of a known, precisely mapped gene, which produces a distinct phenotype. The shrunk gene on chromosome 9 (Sh1) specifies the major protein in the maize kernel, sucrose synthetase. This work was done in the 1950s. Most of his subsequent research has involved the molecular analysis of allelic isozymes and analysis of the Ac/Ds transposable element system.

Not only a great scientist, Schwartz has been responsible for teaching and training students who have become well-recognized investigators. His students’ achievements mirror the superb training they received under his tutelage.

Although Professor Schwartz retired nearly 20 years ago, he continues his genetic research and is present on campus every morning. His generous bequest will continue his legacy.

— *Ash Lee Talley, student assistant*

## Mark Estelle elected to National Academy of Sciences

Professor **Mark Estelle** was elected to membership in the National Academy of Sciences on May 1. This is one of the highest honors that an American scientist can achieve. He was one of 72 new members and 18 foreign associates so honored.

When the announcement of Estelle’s election to NAS was made, colleague Roger Hangarter said, “Certainly the discovery of the auxin receptor, which had been a holy grail of plant physiology for ages, has been one of the climaxes of his work.” Estelle’s research involves the molecular mechanisms of plant hormone action, and his lab recently identified a receptor that binds the plant hormone auxin.

Estelle earned his doctorate in genetics from the University of Alberta in 1983. Upon graduation, he accepted a research position at Michigan State University. Estelle was at MSU until 1986 when he joined the Indiana University faculty. With the exception of a three-year stint at the University of Texas from 1999 to 2002, he has been on our faculty ever since. In 2002, IU named him the Carlos O. Miller Chair of Plant Developmental Biology. Estelle also heads the department’s division of genetic, cell, and developmental biology.

The International Plant Growth Substance Association recognized him with a Silver Medal Award for Distinguished Research last year. In 2006, he earned the Kumho International Science Prize in plant molecular biology. Estelle was elected to membership in the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 2003 and has been an editor of the journal, *Plant Cell*, since 2002.



Courtesy of Indiana University

## Constance Holland remembered

Biology said goodbye to a treasured friend this year. Constance Holland, MAT’60, widow of biology faculty member James Philip Holland, died April 23, 2007, at the age of 70. Holland, a highly respected and gifted secondary school teacher in Bloomington, shared her husband’s passion for teaching. She earned nearly two dozen awards during her 30-year teaching career, including “Outstanding Social Studies Teacher” by the Indiana Council for the Social Sciences (1978) and Monroe County’s “Teacher of the Year.”

She established the James Philip Holland Teaching Award for Exemplary Teaching and Service to Students to honor her husband and to recognize others who shared the Hollands’ passion for the profession. She supported the James P. Holland Graduate Fellowship in Biology and was delighted when Indiana University established the James P. Holland Memorial Lecture in 2000. She attended the lectures, designed to promote diversity in the life sciences, whenever her health permitted. She will be remembered by the members of the IU and Bloomington communities as a staunch friend of education.

## Miller Lecture celebrated Carlos Miller's 50 years at IU

**O**n Thursday, March 6, 2008, Joseph Kieber visited the Bloomington campus to give the Carlos O. Miller Lecture in Plant Molecular Biology. Kieber, a professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, gave the fifth lecture in the series. His research involves the plant hormones ethylene and cytokinin, using the plant *Arabidopsis* as his research model.

The lecture was organized by **Mark Estelle**, who holds the Carlos O. Miller Chair of Plant Developmental Biology. It included a celebration of Professor Emeritus **Carlos Miller's** 50 years of service at Indiana University.

Miller joined the IU faculty in 1957. The majority of his work revolves around cytokinin-related substances. In the early 1960s, Miller extracted zeatin from maize endosperm, showing the first instance of a naturally occurring adenine-based cytokinin. He retired from teaching in 1987, but continues his research. His current focus is an herb, *Lindenbergia muraria*. He has discovered a compound that promotes flowering and is now investigating how environmental factors interact with that compound.

Miller enrolled at Ohio State University after serving in the army during World War II. He earned his doctorate in plant physiology there in 1951, and upon graduation, he accepted a position in Folke Skoog's laboratory at the University of Wisconsin. There Miller isolated kinetin, a key hormone that influences plant growth and development. The Skoog lab was the first to show the diversity of kinetin's effects and its interaction with the plant hormone auxin.

Professor **Richard Amasino**, MA'79, PhD'82, one of Miller's former students, wrote an article on his mentor's discovery of kinetin. The piece appeared in the journal, *Plant Physiology* (138:1177-1184), in 2005.

For more information on Kieber's research, visit his Web site, [www.bio.unc.edu/faculty/kieber](http://www.bio.unc.edu/faculty/kieber). Learn more about the Miller Lecture and this year's special celebration at [development.bio.indiana.edu/miller\\_lecture](http://development.bio.indiana.edu/miller_lecture).



Courtesy of Carlos Miller

*In 1954, Carlos Miller (left), working in Folke Skoog's lab at the University of Wisconsin, isolated kinetin, a plant hormone. Carlos joined our faculty three years later.*

## Symposium honored Charles Heiser's 60 years

Former students of Distinguished Professor Emeritus **Charles Heiser** gathered in Bloomington to celebrate their mentor's 60 years of service to Indiana University. The department marked the occasion with a research symposium held Oct. 12.

**Jeffrey Doyle**, MA'77, PhD'81, professor of plant biology at Cornell University, gave the seminar entitled, "Polyploid Evolution in Soybean and Allies." Doyle is engaged in a collaborative research project with a professor from our department, **Roger Innes**. The two are examining chromosomal and disease-resistance gene evolution using legumes as their research model.

**Gregory Anderson**, PhD'71, gave introductory remarks and reminisced about his experiences in the Heiser laboratory. Anderson is vice provost for research and graduate education at the University of Connecticut.

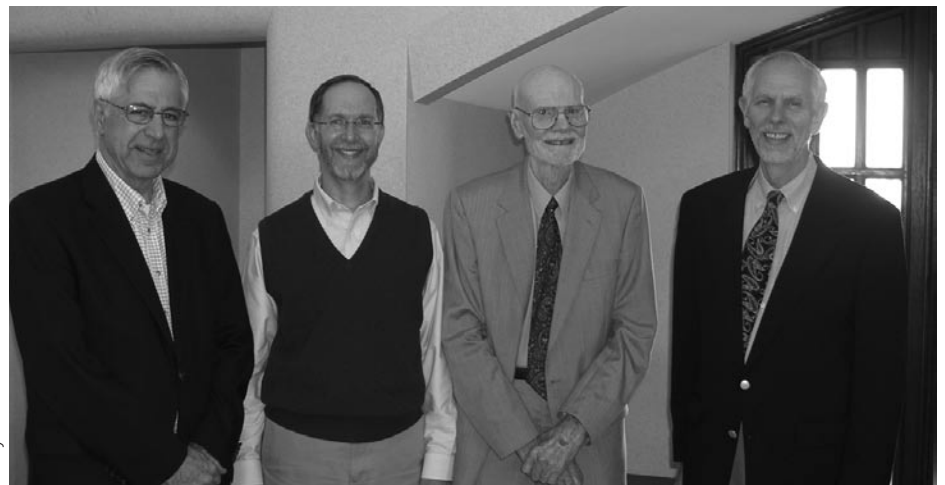
**W. Hardy Eshbaugh**, MA'61, PhD'64, also came to see his mentor honored. Eshbaugh is a retired professor from Miami University of Ohio.

Festivities were organized by biology's

chair, **Jeffrey Palmer**, Professor Emeritus **Gerald Gastony**, and Distinguished Professor **Loren Rieseberg**.

Heiser earned his doctorate from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1947. A renowned ethnobotanist, he is a leading authority on sunflowers. His interests include natural hybridization and its evo-

lutionary significance and the origin of domesticated plants and agriculture. Heiser is considered an authority on naranjillas (lulo), a fruit that produces a pineapple/lemon-flavored juice; gourds; chili peppers; and totora, a member of the sedge family. He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1987.



Jeremy Bennett

*W. Hardy Eshbaugh, Jeff Doyle, Charles Heiser, and Greg Anderson, pictured left to right.*

# Kudos! Well Done! Bravo!

## Faculty teaching awards

**Richard Hardy, David Kehoe, and Armin Moczek** received Trustees' Teaching Awards in 2007. The \$2,500 prize honors outstanding teaching. This is the first time that Moczek earned the award, while Hardy is a two-time recipient, having been recognized in 2006. Kehoe is a three-time winner, having earned the award in 2002 and 2006. Kehoe was also honored during the Biology Undergraduate Awards Ceremony with the 2007 Senior Class Award for Teaching Excellence in Biology and Dedication to Undergraduates. Because of this recognition, he was asked to speak at the department's reception for graduating seniors and their families that was held on May 5.



Christie Wählert

David Kehoe and Kimberly Kopecky both earned awards in 2007.

The American Society of Plant Biologists recognized Professor **Roger Hangarter** with an Excellence in Teaching Award last year for his "strong commitment to undergraduate and graduate education and his remarkable contribution to engaging students of all ages in the biology of plants." The selection committee made note of his "Plants in Motion"

Web site ([plantsinmotion.bio.indiana.edu](http://plantsinmotion.bio.indiana.edu)); the national tour of *sLowlife*, an art exhibition he created with Dennis DeHart that contains video and live plants; "Plant Dance," an interactive exhibit for children that is touring the U.S.; and the award-winning short documentary that he did on the 2004 cicada emergence. The committee praised his contributions. "We in the plant community owe a debt of gratitude to Roger for providing all of us with the tools to excite our students and for showing the public the dynamic life of plants," they wrote.

**Al Ruesink's** Biology L112 course ranked as one of the top 20 "best practices" introductory biology courses in the country, according to a national study by the Center for Educational Policy Research that was conducted for the College Board.

## Faculty promotions

The university awarded **Roger Hangarter** with a named professorship. He is now Class of 1968 Endowed Professor.

The graduate school named plant developmental ecologist **Maxine Watson** an associate dean. Watson will be involved with student recruitment and diversity and also is charged with enhancing the quality of life for IU's graduate students.

**Emília Martins** was promoted to full professor. She studies the evolution of complex behavioral traits such as communication and social behavior.

**Greg Demas** and **Heather Reynolds** were awarded tenure last year when they were named associate professors. Demas studies neuroendocrine-immune interactions and behavior in an ecologically relevant context, while Reynolds' research centers on community ecology and plant-soil-microbial interactions.

**Vladmira Dragnea** was promoted to assistant scientist; she works in the Bauer lab.

## Faculty awards & grants

Two faculty members recently earned awards from the Fulbright Foundation. Associate Professor **Jim Bever** received a Fulbright Senior Scholar Fellowship for his 2006–07 sabbatical in Australia where he conducted research on plant-microbe interactions and spatial modeling. Bever also earned a Harvard University Bullard Fellowship that supports individuals with the potential to make significant contributions to forestry and forestry-related areas.

Professor Emeritus **George Hegeman** received a Senior Specialists Fellowship to teach ocular microbiology in Thailand at

Ramkhamhaeng University. He will also help that university's Health Science Institute develop an optometry program.

Professor **Keith Clay** and School of Public and Environmental Affairs professor Burnell Fischer received a \$26,000 research grant from the U.S. Forest Service. Clay's post-doctoral fellow, **Angie Shelton**, and two of his graduate students, **Luke Flory**, MS'03, and **Dan Johnson**, MS'07, are also involved with the project.

Assistant Professor **Suchetana "Tuli" Mukhopadhyay** and chemistry professor Bogdan Dragnea received an instrumentation grant from the National Science Foundation for a 300 kV field emission transmission electron microscope. The machine will aid the department's research in structural biology.

## In the news

Graduate students **Yaniv Brandvain** and **Michael S. Barker**, along with Professor **Mike Wade**, had an article, entitled "Gene Co-Inheritance and Gene Transfer," published in the March 23, 2007, issue of *Science*.

Research by postdoctoral fellow **Luz Irina A. Calderon-Villalobos**, Professor **Mark Estelle**, and colleagues from Washington University and the University of Cambridge was featured on the April 5, 2007, cover of *Nature*, "Auxin action revealed!"

Assistant Professor **Matt Hahn**, former graduate student **Jeff Demuth**, PhD'04, and colleagues published "Evolutionary and Biomedical Insights from the Rhesus Macaque Genome," in the April 13, 2007, issue of *Science*.

## Staff news

2007 was quite a year for **Anna Bednarski**, BS'96, JD'03. The Indiana Academic Advising Network (IAAN) named Anna their Outstanding Professional Advisor. Recipients are recognized for their professional attitude

*continued on p. 6*



Robert Molnar

Anna Bednarski was recognized by the Indiana Academic Advising Network.

# BraVo!

*continued from p. 5*

toward advisees, their effective interpersonal skills, and their efforts to help students achieve academic and career goals. Anna created the BioBlog ([hoosierbiology.wordpress.com](http://hoosierbiology.wordpress.com)) to keep our undergraduates informed of news and events.

The Lilly Foundation awarded the Jim Holland Summer Enrichment Program in Biology a three-year, \$115,000 grant, thanks to the efforts of Program Director Mary Ann Tellas and Assistant Director **Jeremy Bennett**, BA'00. The program is designed to interest Indiana minority high school students in science by bringing them to campus for classes and hands-on laboratory experience. Lilly extended congratulations on an excellent program and a strong proposal.

## Postdoctoral student and research associate honors

**Andrew Alverson** (Palmer lab), **Pamela Bonner** (Brun lab), and **Brody DeYoung** (Innes lab) received postdoctoral fellowships from the National Institutes of Health.

**Cecile Berne** (Brun lab) received funding from the American Society of Microbiology to attend the Biofilms conference last March.

The Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology honored **Susannah French** (Demas lab) with the Best Student Oral Presentation Award.

**Jinwoo Kim** (Fuqua lab) earned a \$24,400 Korea Research Foundation Postdoctoral Scholarship.

**Luz Irina Calderon-Villalobos** and **Geraint Parry**, both from the Estelle lab, received fellowships to attend last year's International Plant Growth Substance Association meeting in Mexico.

## Graduate student honors

Several graduate students were recognized at a reception held May 3, 2007. A \$1,000 Louise Constable Hoover Fellowship went to **Idelle Cooper** (Lively lab). **Amanda Posto**, BA'97, BS'97, (Moyle lab) earned \$1,000 from the George Hudock Fellowship. Two \$1,000 Walter A. Konetzka Fellowships went to **Andrian Gutu** (Kehoe lab) and **Ryan Bezy** (Kehoe lab). **Andrew Burnham** (Hardy lab) and **Megan Parrott** (Mukhopadhyay lab) each earned \$1,500 in summer support from



Christie Wahler

*Andrian Gutu, Megan Parrott, Idelle Cooper, Andrew Burnham, and Amanda Posto, left to right, earned fellowships from the Department of Biology in 2007.*

the Milton Taylor Fellowship.

**Antiño Allen** (Smith lab) declined a Dissertation Year Fellowship and a McCormick Scholarship. Doing so enabled him to accept a Porter Fellowship from the American Physiological Society for 2007–08.

**Skye Barendt** (Winkler lab) received the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Predoctoral Fellowship for Minority Students. This award from the National Institutes of Health will provide funding for three years.

**Christine Bergeon** (Demas lab) earned a National Science Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship Award in 2007. That summer, Bergeon, along with fellow graduate student, **Kristal Cain** (Ketterson lab), traveled to the Whitney Nature Preserve in South Dakota to study the reproductive behavior of the white-winged junco.

**Idelle Cooper** and **Britt Koskella** (Lively lab) received funds from the Society for the Study of Evolution so they could attend evolution meetings in New Zealand in 2007.

The Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution provided funding to **Tami Cruickshank** (Wade lab) last year so she could attend their meeting in Nova Scotia.

**Luke Flory** (Clay lab) was among five IU community members recognized last year by the Hoosier National Forest branch of the U.S. Forest Service. The group received the Forest Supervisor's Partnership Award for efforts to eradicate invasive plant species from Hoosier forests.

**Timothy Greives** and **Melissa-Ann Scotti** (Demas lab) earned research awards from the Society for Integrative & Comparative Biology and travel awards from the Society for Neuroendocrinology.

**Paula Grez** (Cherbas lab) earned the Don C. Warren Fellowship in 2007.

The IU Center for the Integrative Study of Animal Behavior awarded **Ian Hall** a fellowship (Hurley lab).

The Indiana Branch of the American Society for Microbiology recognized **Andrew Houppert** (Marketon lab) who earned a first place McClung Award for his presentation at a recent meeting.

**Bethany Kesselring Wasik** (Moczek lab), **Tami Cruickshank**, and **Idelle Cooper** earned the Evolution, Development and Genomics Integrative Graduate Education and Research Training Fellowship in 2007. **Amanda Posto** also earned this fellowship.

The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada awarded a three-year graduate fellowship to **Kayla King** (Lively and Hall labs).

**Brett Mattingly** (Reynolds lab) and **Britt Koskella** (Lively lab) received doctoral dissertation improvement grants from the National Science Foundation last year. The grants are based on scientific merit and enable students to conduct field research or engage in major data-gathering projects.

**Elizabeth Middleton**, BS'04 (Bever lab) earned grants from The Nature Conservancy and the Indiana Native Plants Society.

Portugal's Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia granted student **M. Helena Mendes Soares** (Velicer lab) a predoctoral fellowship.

**Matthew Stansbury** (Moczek lab) earned a predoctoral fellowship from the National Institutes of Health. The fellowship runs from 2007 to 2009.

**Masashi Yamada** (Estelle lab), **Barb Swedo** (Reynolds lab), **Jamie Kang** (Bever lab), and **Luke Flory** earned the Floyd-Ogg Final Year Fellowships. Yamada also received a fellowship to attend the International Plant Growth Substance Association in Mexico.

The Society for Integrative & Comparative Biology presented **Devin Zysling** (Demas and Ketterson labs) with an award for the Best Student Poster in the Division of Animal Behavior.

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Five graduate students were among honorees recognized at the Biology Undergraduate Awards Ceremony. They included **Megan Parrott**, **Joyce Patrick** (Kearns lab), and **Amelia Tomlinson** (Fuqua lab), who each earned \$200 and a “Beyond the Call of Duty” certificate recognizing their work with the M485 Microbial and Molecular Genetics Laboratory course. **Jennifer “Jef” Akst** (photo below), from the Wade lab, received a Sears Crowell Scholarship to fund her study of wild seahorse populations in Florida. **Bronwyn “Heather” Bleakley** received the 2007 Outstanding Associate Instructor Award for her contributions to Q201 Biology for Elementary Teachers and Z373 Entomology.



Courtesy of Jennifer Akst

Crowell funds helped Jef Akst travel to Florida to conduct a study of wild seahorse populations.

## Undergraduate honors

Several students were recognized at the Biology Undergraduate Awards Ceremony held on April 27.

At the ceremony, **Daniel DeSloover** earned the Biology Undergraduate Research Award. Cook Inc., a Bloomington-based medical device company, sponsors the \$1,000 scholarship.

**Kristin Totten** is the 19th student to receive a Blatchley Nature Study Club scholarship in the amount of \$500. The group, based in Noblesville, Ind., seeks to promote educational study and scientific research in the natural sciences.

The \$500 Howard W. Clark Scholarship, which encourages interest in botany, soil building, and plant breeding, went to **Samuel Scarpino**, BS'07. **Robert Calderon** earned a \$500 Sears Crowell Scholarship to study the marine environment surrounding Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles, in the Caribbean. **Jessica Geahlen**, **Megan Greischar**, and **Alec Sexton** each earned a \$500 Carl H. Eigenmann Scholarship, which is awarded to students interested in zoological or other biological research.

The Fox Glen Research and Education Fund, designed to encourage undergraduate participation in scientific research, went to **Lindsey Peters**, who earned \$500. **Rahul Reddy** earned \$2,000 from the Rex Grossman Award for premedical students. Rahul is now a medical student at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

Microbiology majors **Traci Sarber** and **Sarah Sitarski** each earned \$2,000 via the L.S. McClung Scholarship. Sitarski earned an additional \$2,000 through the Microbiology Undergraduate Summer Research Program Award. The funding enabled her to conduct an independent research project in Assistant Professor Tuli Mukhopadhyay's laboratory.

**Brittany Shepherd** received a \$500 Outstanding Honors Thesis Award. **Eric Beckley** earned \$500 via the Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Intern Award.

**Thomas Burke**, **Hillary Guenther**, **Alana Hahn**, **John Hegde**, **Jerrah Jackson**, **Michael Tyler King**, **Kimberly Kopecky**, **Sandra Ngo**, **Courtney Reynolds**, **Brittany Shepherd**, **Lindsay Olivia Stepp**, and **Jessica Walter** each earned \$1,000, thanks to

Fernandus and Elizabeth Payne Scholarships. The Payne Scholarship is the department's oldest undergraduate award.

**Shivangini Mahendroo** earned a \$500 William Tatum Scholarship. This award was created by departmental alumnus **Bill Tatum**, BS'61, MAT'66, a retired science teacher.

Biology Club officers **Ben Atkinson** and **Kyle Robertson** were recognized with the Departmental Appreciation Award for Exceptional Service to Undergraduates.

Seven Department of Biology students earned scholarships from the College.

**Brittany Shepherd** and **John Hegde** earned the Malcolm A. Kochert Scholarship that is awarded to select undergraduates majoring in the physical sciences.

A James F. Maurer Scholarship went to **Jeff Alstott**. Liberal arts students from Clay County, Ind., are eligible for the award.

**Tyler King** earned three awards: the Charles H. and Shirley A. Stammer Scholarship; the Nancy Weber, DO, Scholarship; and a College of Arts and Sciences Scholarship. Beth England, director of stewardship for the College, says that the Stammer and Weber awards are given to students who “want to give back by helping others.”

The John W. Ashton Award, open to arts or humanities undergraduates, went to **Aaron Goldman**, who is majoring in Biology and Religious Studies, and **Becky Winn**, a Biology and English major. Winn also received the Abel Scholarship, the Jeanice Bartling Lewis Memorial Scholarship, and a College of Arts and Sciences Scholarship.

The final recipient of an award from the College was **Anthony Turner**. He earned the Sally Kissinger Wilt Merit Scholarship.

Also earning special recognition this year were **Aaron J. DeLoughery**, **Christopher Cole**, **John Hvala**, BS'07, **John Tyler Means**, **Samuel Scarpino**, BS'07, and **Leonard Weiss**.

DeLoughery received a prestigious Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship. He was one of 317 students nationwide to receive Goldwater funding, which covers the cost of tuition, room and board, fees, and books. He is the ninth student in our department to have been so honored. Cole won a first prize McClung Award from the Indiana Branch of the American Society for Microbiology for his undergraduate poster presentation.

A campus-wide Intensive Writing Prize went to Hvala for a paper he wrote for his Biology Honors Evolution class. Means earned a Summer Research Fellowship from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. Weiss earned the Tracy C. Owens, M.D., Memorial Scholarship. And IU recognized Scarpino (photo below) with the Elvis J. Stahr Distinguished Senior Award. Kappa Kappa Kappa Inc. presented him with the Beryl Showers Holland Fellowship.



Courtesy of Sam Scarpino

Samuel Scarpino, BS'07, seen in the Alps, earned a Howard W. Clark Scholarship.

# Alumni Notebook

## Before 1960

In July, Cambridge International, a publisher of the biographies of leading scientists, recognized **Meredith N. Runner**, BA'37, PhD'42, with a lifetime achievement award. A retired professor of developmental biology at the University of Colorado in Boulder, Runner lives in North Manchester, Ind.

**Lawrence D. Stieglitz**, BA'51, MAT'52, MD'58, of Kalamazoo, Mich., was in private psychiatric practice from 1966 to 1978. He then worked for Kalamazoo Regional Psychiatric Hospital from 1978 to 1995. A beneficiary of the GI Bill, Stieglitz attended IU South Bend in September 1946 and moved to IU Bloomington in February 1948. He married Marilyn (Fogle), MS'54, on June 10, 1951, and they had four sons. Retired in October 1995, Stieglitz now grows gardens.

In June 2007, six former IU football players were inducted into the Indiana Football Hall of Fame. They were: **Brad J. Bomba Sr.**, BA'57, MD'61, of Bloomington, Ind.; Jade J. Butcher, BS'72, of Gosport; Douglas G. Crusan Jr., BA'72, of Fishers; Harry L. Gonso, BS'70, JD'73, of Indianapolis; Harold "Monk" Mauro Jr., BS'68, MS'69, of Bloomington; and E.G. White Jr., BS'71, MBA'75, of Greenwood. Bomba was an All-American end in 1956.

**Thomas H. Alt**, BA'58, MD'61, received the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award from the Boy Scouts of America at its Northern Star Council of St. Paul, Minn. Fewer than 2,000 Eagle Scouts nationwide have received this award. Alt is retired from a career in medicine, in which he served as a founder and principal surgeon of a center for cosmetic surgery. He also was an associate clinical professor at the University of Minnesota's School of Medicine. Before entering private practice in Minneapolis, he was a major in the U.S. Army Medical Corps. Alt splits his time between Shorewood and Schroeder, Minn.

## 1960s

**Alberto S. Taylor**, MA'60, PhD'67, is a member of the botany research faculty at the University of Panama. In July 2007 he served as chairman of the International Conference on Cycad Biology, held in Panama City. Taylor writes, "Come next year, I will retire from most university affairs, start sorting most, if not all, of the many research data accumulated throughout the years and, perhaps, take up on my

languages lessons. Hope to cope somewhat with Chinese." Taylor lives in Panama City, Panama.

The Society for Economic Botany named **W. Hardy Eshbaugh**, MA'61, PhD'64, their 2007 Distinguished Economic Botanist. This is the group's highest award, which recognizes outstanding education and research efforts. Hardy was honored at the society's 2007 annual meeting for his work on the origin and evolution of peppers (*Capsicum spp.*). "Hardy has distinguished himself as a tireless advocate of biodiversity conservation," said SEB member Mary Eubanks. "He has greatly contributed to the next generation of botanists through his inspirational teaching of undergraduate and graduate students at Miami University of Ohio."

**Rollan J. Gongwer**, BA/BS'66, OD'68, ran a private optometry practice in Cassopolis, Mich., from 1968 to 1984, during which time he was a member of the Battle Creek Air National Guard and commander of the 110th clinic. In 1984, he joined the United States Public Health Service as a commissioned officer in the Indian Health Service, where he served on reservations in Popular, Mont.; Chinle, Ariz.; Shawnee, Okla.; and El Reno, Okla. He retired from USPHS in 2006 as a captain. During retirement, Gongwer spends his time volunteering. He and his wife, Carol, have four children.

**Philip C. Walter**, BA'67, DDS'72, writes, "[I'm] still practicing dentistry in Aurora, Colo., and Denver [since 1974] and continue to enjoy the results of my wonderful education from IU."

**David M. Giles**, BA'68, MD'71, Res'75, writes, "After 30 years as a psychiatrist at Gallahue Mental Health Services and Community Hospital North in Indianapolis, I have now retired. My new 'job' is a 'fine-arts roadie,' assisting my ceramic-artist wife, Gayle Herrli."

**Richard E. Bender**, BS'69, retired in 2004 after 35 years in education as a teacher and counselor. Bender also served as guidance director of Perry Meridian Middle School in Indianapolis. He now spends his time volunteering. Bender and his wife, Joyce (Hamer), BS'73, live in Indianapolis.

## 1970s

In April 2007, **Robert B. Stein**, BS'73, was appointed to the board of directors of Archemix Corp., a biopharmaceutical company based in Cambridge, Mass. Previously,

he served as president of the pharmaceutical company Roche Palo Alto. Stein lives in Woodside, Calif.

**William M. Tierney**, BA'73, MD'76, Res'79, is the Chancellor's Professor of Medicine and chief of general internal medicine and geriatrics at the IU School of Medicine in Indianapolis. He is also director of research for the IU-Kenya program, where he is responsible for an HIV/AIDS research program in collaboration with Moi University. In October, Tierney was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences.

**James M. Brogan**, BA'74, is a managing partner at the law firm DLA Piper in Philadelphia. His trial practice includes commercial disputes, intellectual property, product liability, and toxic torts. Brogan was inducted as a fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, which limits the number of fellows from the United States to 500. He is the coordinator of DLA Piper's partnership with Villanova School of Law's pro-bono Lawyering Together program.

**Douglas W. Glover**, BA'74, is manager of the specialty laboratories and business ventures unit of London Laboratory Services Group in Ontario, Canada. LLSG is a joint venture of London Health Sciences Centre and St. Joseph's Health Care London and provides diagnostic clinical laboratory services to the eight hospitals that are part of these two hospital groups. He previously served as manager of the routine laboratories.

**Daniel F. Hayes**, BA'74, MS'77, MD'79, of Ann Arbor, Mich., is a professor of internal medicine at the University of Michigan. He also serves as clinical director of the breast-oncology program at the university's Comprehensive Cancer Center. In August 2007, Hayes received the Gianni Bonadonna Breast Cancer Award, presented by the American Society of Clinical Oncology. He became the first recipient of the \$10,000 award, which honors a researcher of merit in the field of breast cancer. Hayes is chairman of the Breast Cancer Translational Medicine Committee of the Southwest Oncology group and also serves as chairman of the Correlative Sciences Committee of the U.S. Breast Cancer Intergroup.

**Dr. James A. Sliwa**, BA'74, is chief medical officer of the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago. He lives in Munster, Ind.

After graduating from IU Donald C. Harris, BS'39, spent nine months in Brazil, including one month on the Amazon River and its tributaries. Sixty-seven years later,

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Harris, his wife, Mabel Sue (Davis), BS'49, and daughter, **Rosalind Harris Webb**, BA'74, MD'78, joined the Hoosier Travelers on a trip to the Amazon in February. "When the [trip's] brochure came out, I decided it was time to take one more look at this great river and its environs," he writes. "It is still a magnificent, awe-inspiring river."

**Bruce F. Paterson**, BA'75, is an allergy and asthma physician in Concord, Calif. He and his wife, Maggie, have two children, Raemy, 14, and Seth, 11. "I watched IU play in the NCAA tournament in Sacramento — proud to be an alumnus," he writes. The Patersons live in Pleasant Hill.

**Michael R. Hartman**, BA'77, JD'80, has been reappointed chairman of the litigation department of Bingham McHale in Indianapolis. Hartman has more than 20 years of experience in civil litigation, including real estate and other business litigation matters. He leads the law firm's business-litigation industry team.

**Worthe S. Holt Jr.**, BA'78, MD'82, was named 2007 Indiana Aviator of the Year by the Indianapolis Air Show executive committee. He is executive vice president and regional chief operating officer for St. Vincent Health, serving various St. Vincent hospitals in Indiana. Holt, of Fishers, is a colonel in the U.S. Air Force with 25 years of service.

## 1980s

**Robert J. Hanrahan III**, BA'81, writes, "I have formed a company, Angel Funding, dedicated to assisting the development efforts of children's hospitals and to teaching best practices to not-for-profits." He lives and works in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

**Patricia Boswell Tapley**, BA'81, is an orthodontist at Pappas & Tapley Orthodontics in Gainesville, Fla. An I-Woman who lettered in softball and volleyball, Tapley also serves as president of the Florida Association of Orthodontists, the first woman to do so. She is married to T. Craig, DBA'81, a professor and Graham-Buffett Senior Lecturer of Finance at the University of Florida's Warrington College of Business. Craig was named the college's teacher of the year for 2006–2007. The Tapleys live in Gainesville.

**Fernando R. Montoya**, BA'82, MS'83, MD'90, Res'93, of Fishers, Ind., is a physician, practicing with IU Medical Group in Indianapolis.

The Indiana Academy of Family Physicians named **Alan Bercovitz**, BA'83, MD'87, physician of the year in 2007. Bercovitz, who has a solo practice in Indianapolis, received his award at the closing



Courtesy of Indiana University

## Alumnus Marshall appointed IU vice provost

**Edwin Marshall**, BA'68, BS'70, OD'71, MS'79, was appointed IU's vice president of diversity, equity, and multi-cultural affairs on July 18. In making the appointment, IU President Michael McRobbie praised Marshall's deep commitment to diversity and equity in higher education. Marshall, at left, also was named the 2007 Optometrist of the Year by the American Optometric Association Congress.

dinner of the academy's annual convention held at the French Lick (Ind.) Center. He is married to Janine (Airo), BA'83. Their oldest daughter, Elizabeth, is a freshman at IU Bloomington. Bercovitz lives in Indianapolis.

In April 2007 the National Committee for Quality Assurance and the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association announced that five IU alumni received recognition from the Heart/Stroke Recognition Program for providing quality care to their patients. The alumni were **James S. Fix**, BS'83, MD'87; Lawrence D. Rink, MD'66, Res'73; James V. Faris, BA'65, MD'68, Res'71; L. Annette Alpert, MD'83, Res'86; and Carter F. Henrich, MD'74, Res'77. All five work for Internal Medicine Associates in Bloomington, Ind.

**Robert E. Bancroft**, BS'87, is general manager of Healthpoint, a specialty pharmaceutical company based in Fort Worth, Texas. In May 2007, he named fellow IU Bloomington alumnus Joseph S. Santoro, BS'89, vice president of sales and health-care systems for the company. Bancroft lives in Trabuco Canyon, Calif., and Santoro lives in Keller, Texas.

**Jody Zima Kerr**, BS'87, is a pediatric oncologist at Nemours Children's Clinic in Jacksonville, Fla. She is also involved with the Ronald McDonald House in Jacksonville. Kerr lives in Ponte Vedra Beach with her husband and three children.

## 1990s

**Jim Arnold**, BS'92, DDS'96, serves as fellowship chairman for the International Academy of Comprehensive Esthetics and is the owner of two dental practices, one in Valparaiso, Ind., and one in Chesterton, Ind. The I-Man in track also teaches contemporary dentistry to American dentists with the Hornbrook Group and teaches internationally with the World Institute for Dental Esthetics. In 2006 Arnold and his wife, Sarah (Fischer), BS'92, JD'96, had their fourth child. They now have two boys and two girls. The Arnolds live in Valparaiso.

**Daniel A. Cristol**, PhD'93, is an associate professor of biology at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Va. He began teaching at the college in 1996 and is known for his work involving birds. Cristol is one of 12 statewide recipients of the 2007 Outstanding Faculty Awards, sponsored by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and Dominion.

**Kevin J. Delaney**, BS'93, writes, "I recently started a post-doctorate position, where I study wheat resistance and physiological tolerance to wheat-stem sawfly larval feeding, at Montana State University. I had been an assistant professor in biology at Xavier University of Louisiana from August 2003 to August 2005, until I had to evacuate New Orleans as a result of Hurricane

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## Alumni notebook

(continued from page 9)

Katrina. I evacuated with my wife, Cynthia, to Seattle in September 2005. I was laid off by Xavier University in October 2005, but the University of Washington Department of Biology took me in as a visiting assistant professor in biology for October 2005 through June 2006. I am grateful for the time I worked at Xavier University, the University of Washington, and in getting my new job that keeps [us] in the Northwest.”

**Philip A. Downing**, BA’93, has been promoted to assistant general manager and director of analytical services at Bioanalytical Systems Inc. in Evansville, Ind. He lives in Newburgh, Ind.

**Bryan R. Mayol**, BA’93, MD’97, is a physician for Fairview Sports and Orthopedic Care in Minneapolis. Previously, he worked at two private practices in Indianapolis — OrthoIndy and Cornerstone Family Physicians. Additionally, Mayol has worked as medical director for the 2004 FINA World Swimming Championships and as a physician for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City.

**Andrea R. Terrell**, BS’93, is laboratory director for AIT Laboratories in Indianapolis. Previously, she earned a PhD in biochemistry from Colorado State University and pursued a postdoctoral fellowship at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. Terrell lives in Indianapolis.

**Eddie Palmer**, BS’95, is a neuroscience account representative for Eli Lilly & Co. An I-Man in wrestling, he lives and works in Indianapolis.

“I am blissfully self-employed and run the Shelley Eye Center in Las Cruces, N.M.,” writes **Brent E. Shelley**, BS’95, OD’00. “I am still an avid pilot, where my son and I spend two or three weekends a month at the airport toying around.” Shelley lives in Las Cruces.

**Michelle Opalka Tiberia**, BS’95, is a doctor at Golnick Pediatric Dental Associates in West Bloomfield, Mich. Her daughter, Layla Josephine, was born in August. Tiberia lives in Rochester Hills, Mich.

**Ana Day Burns**, BS’96, MS’99, was promoted to coordinator for ecological services in the natural-resources consulting group of Davey Resource Group, a division of Davey Tree Expert Co. in Kent, Ohio. She has worked at Davey since 2002. Burns lives in Akron.

**Andrea R. Miles**, BS’96, lives in Atlanta with her husband, soccer I-Man Thua G. Barlay, MBA/JD’02, a partner in the law firm The Webster Firm.

**Jean Berkey Israelson**, BS’97, OD’01, is an optometrist at EnVision Boulder in Colorado. Her husband, **Michael**, BA’98, DDS’02, has a dentistry practice in Louisville, Colo. They had a son, Bryce Daniel, on Aug. 12, 2006.

**Jennifer L. Medenwald**, BA’98, JD’01, of Chicago, is a shareholder at the law firm of Querrey & Harrow. She practices in appellate, insurance coverage, and employment law.

A technical-support hepatitis specialist for Abbott Labs in North Chicago, Ill., **Christopher F. Palazzolo**, BS’99, recently earned his MBA and master’s degree in project management. He also became a certified quality auditor. Palazzolo lives in Arlington Heights, Ill.

**Aimee D. Piurek**, BS’99, works as a cancer genetic counselor through Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. She also works part time in the university’s molecular-pathology department as a cytogenetic technologist. She received her master’s degree in genetic counseling from the University of Maryland. Piurek lives in Baltimore.

## 2000s

**Sarah C. Bauer**, BS’00, is chief resident at Comer Children’s Hospital at the University of Chicago. She was the recipient of three awards at the University of Chicago’s 2007 pediatric residency graduation — the Herbert T. Abelson Award for outstanding research in educational organization; Senior Resident of the Year; and the University of Chicago Child Protective Services Robert Kirschner MD Advocacy Award. Bauer lives in Chicago with her husband, Christopher D. Kennedy, BS’00, an equity analyst for Skyline Asset Management.

**Kenan L. Farrell**, BS’00, JD’03, is an attorney at the law firm Bingham McHale in Indianapolis. He practices intellectual-property litigation. Farrell was elected as the 2007 chair of the intellectual-property section of the Indianapolis Bar Association.

**Homer W. Faucett III**, BS/Cert’00, JD’03, is an associate at the law firm Ice Miller in Indianapolis. He and wife, J. Allyson, also own and operate Faucett & Flame, a store in Lebanon, Ind., that sells candles, soaps, and soy products. The Faucetts live in Jamestown, Ind.

**Suzannah Park Sorg**, BS’00, MD’04, and her husband, Jason, MD’04, had their first child, Jocelyn Kaya, on January 2, 2007. The Sorgs live in Carmel, Ind.

**Jeffrey M. Wells**, BS’00, MBA/MD’06, is director of the Office of Medicaid Policy and Planning of the Indiana Family & Social Services Administration, a position he

started in April. Wells replaced Jeanne M. LaBrecque, BSN’70, MSN’73, MHA’86, as the Medicaid director.

**Jennifer S. Burnett**, Cert/BA/BS’02, writes, “In June 2006, I returned from serving three years as a Peace Corps volunteer in Ghana, West Africa. I’m currently attending Princeton University, working on a MPA from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. Studying hard, but loving school ... definitely missing the traditions and atmosphere of IU.” Burnett lives in Princeton, N.J.

**Matthew R. Cramer**, BA’02, works as a production assistant at television station KEYE in Austin, Texas. In fall 2007, he enrolled at Texas State University in San Marcos, where he is pursuing a master’s degree in secondary education. Cramer lives in Austin.

**Cassandra Stelk Fransen**, BS’02, is a cytopathology resource coordinator for Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago. Her husband, J. Clinton, BS’02, is a senior consultant of business continuity for Protiviti in Chicago. The Fransens have a daughter, Jules Claire, born on May 27. They live in Naperville, Ill.

“[I have] finished my first year of teaching high school biology, anatomy, and physiology at my alma mater, George Rogers Clark Middle School/High School in Hammond, Ind. I am loving every minute of it!” writes **Jessica L. Pramuk**, BS’02. She lives in Whiting, Ind.

**Kristin J. Behme**, BA’03, DPT’06, of Indianapolis, is a physical therapist at St. Francis Hospital in Beech Grove, Ind.

**Christiane Hassel**, BS’03, is manager of the Flow Cytometry Care Facility at IU Bloomington’s Center for Genomics and Bioinformatics. She lives in Bloomington.

**Jonathan M. Dilger**, BS’03, is the project leader for the explosives-detection group at the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Crane, Ind. His wife, Rebecca (Ellies), BS’02, MAT’06, is an adjunct faculty member in the mathematics department at IU Bloomington and a private math tutor. The two married on Aug. 12, 2006, in Bloomington. The Dilgers live in Bloomington.

**Brianne Williams Kirkpatrick**, BA’03, is a prenatal-genetic counselor at St. Vincent Women’s Hospital in Indianapolis. She married in June 2006 and lives in Zionsville, Ind.

**Susan C. Cook**, BA/BS’04, has a fellowship in ecology and biology at Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y.

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The IU Alumni Association is charged with maintaining records for all IU alumni. Please print as much of the following information as you wish. Its purpose, in addition to providing us with your class note, is to keep IU's alumni records accurate and up to date. To verify and update your information online, visit our online alumni directory at [www.alumni.indiana.edu/directory](http://www.alumni.indiana.edu/directory).

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**Stacy E. Dixon**, BS'04, is a full-time student in the IU School of Medicine in Indianapolis, where she is pursuing an MD and PhD in pharmacology. Dixon writes that she is in her fourth year of the program and is studying the parasite *Toxoplasma gondii*. She lives in Indianapolis.

**Richard P. Weitzel**, BS'04, is a graduate student in pathology at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland. In 2007 he received a travel award from AMAXA Inc. Weitzel lives in Cleveland Heights.

**Joel G. Lopez**, BS'05, is pursuing his MD at Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine. He plans to graduate in 2010.

**Kaveh Rahmani**, BS'05, is pursuing a master's degree in biomedical sciences at Midwestern University, which is located in Downers Grove, Ill.

**Jennifer Wagner**, PhD'05, is a research fellow in microbiology and molecular genetics at the Harvard Medical School. Last year, she earned Biology's Floyd Award for Outstanding Microbiology Publication for her article, "A Nutrient Uptake Role for Bacterial Cell Envelope Extensions," which was published in the *Proceedings of the National Academies of Science* (2006, v. 103). Wagner wrote the piece with S. Setayeshgar,

L. Sharon, J. Reilly, and **Yves Brun**.

**Leleña A. Avila**, MA'06, is a graduate student at the University of Virginia.

**Jenna L. Dismore**, BS'06, is a student in the University of Louisville School of Medicine. She lives in Lexington, Ind.

**Harmony L. Haring**, BS'06, is a student at the IU School of Medicine, attending the Terre Haute (Ind.) Center. She married James A. Ignaut, BS'06, on Dec. 22, 2007. Haring lives in Terre Haute.

**Jason D. Russ**, BS'06, is pursuing a medical degree at the IU School of Medicine in Indianapolis. He lives in Leo, Ind.

**Grant A. Simpson**, BS'06, is a pharmacy technician at Williams Bros. Long Term Care Pharmacy in Bloomington, Ind. He is also pursuing an associate's degree from the Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic Program at Ivy Tech Community College. Simpson lives in Bloomington.

**Bronwyn "Heather" Bleakley**, PhD'07, moved to the United Kingdom, thanks to a National Science Foundation International Research Fellowship. Her work at the University of Exeter's Centre for Ecology and Conservation is funded for 13 months. Bleakley will then head to Northern Arizona University to complete the remaining 11 months of her fellowship.

This fall, **Johanna "Hanna" Kolodziejski**, PhD'07, joined the faculty of New Hampshire's Keene State College as an assistant professor of neurobiology. She is teaching one introductory and one senior biology class and says, "I love it — [it's] a great way for me to delve head-first into my much-missed teaching!"

**Aaron O. Richardson**, PhD'07, earned a two-year Bioinformatic Postdoctoral Fellowship from the National Science Foundation. He joined the Plant Sciences Department at the University of Georgia, and is working with Professor Sue Wessler on the evolution of transposable elements in grasses.

**Samuel Scarpino**, BS'07, earned a three-year National Science Foundation predoctoral fellowship at the University of Texas–Austin, where he is enrolled in their Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior Program.

**Jeffrey D. Stumpf**, PhD'07, is a postdoctoral fellow in Molecular Genetics at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences at the Research Triangle Park in North Carolina.

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## *Carved in stone!*

# Simon Hall exterior sculptures tell a story



Chris Meyer/Indiana University

*A fruit fly and mouse are two of the carvings from "Chemistry of Life," the series of carvings that adorn the exterior of Simon Hall.*

In 2005, IU Architect Rich Thompson called upon science faculty for help in personalizing IU's new multidisciplinary science building, Simon Hall. He wanted the exterior facade to reflect the work being done within. **Beth Raff**, then chair of the biology department, answered the call. She met with sculptor Amy Brier, MFA'96, who designed clay molds of research organisms used by geneticists. These were then executed by the Indiana Limestone Company.

The resulting "Chemistry of Life" series appears on the arches over the windows on the building's east side where the Linda and Jack Gill Center for Biomolecular Science is housed. "That's what this building is about," Raff explained in an interview she did for

the local newspaper when the pieces were installed. "It alludes to the history of biology and chemistry at Indiana University and also to the future." In addition to the fruit fly, *Drosophila melanogaster*, and the mouse seen above, there are four mushrooms, an ear of maize, the bacterium *Escherichia coli*, and the single-celled *Paramecium*. Woven among the six carvings are letters representing genetic sequence codes.

The north wall includes a quote from Louis Pasteur that reads, "Chance favors the prepared mind." That is very true for scientific endeavors, but the architects, artists, and scientists who designed Simon Hall left nothing to chance when it came to the design of this beautiful building.