Alumni news
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Distinguished Service Award from the IU Kokomo Alumni Association. Sciame-Giesecke lives in Kokomo.

Holly C. Baxter, MA’97, PhD’03, is CEO and chief scientist of Strategic Knowledge Solutions, a consulting company she co-founded in 2006. Her daughter, Kyla, was born on July 2, 2007. Baxter and her husband, Ken Bedel, live in Vandalia, Ohio.

James T. Ryan, BAI’97, is an attorney for The Feldhake Law Firm in Costa Mesa, Calif. His areas of practice are business litigation, class-action litigation, and copyright infringement. Ryan lives in Newport Coast, Calif.

2000s

Ebony A. Utley, BA/Cert’01, is an assistant professor in California State University’s department of communication studies. She lives and works in Long Beach, Calif.

Amanda L. Brock, BA’02, is an attorney for the law firm Henderson Franklin in Fort Myers, Fla. In May 2007, she married Luis E. Rivera II, a fellow attorney at Henderson Franklin. Brock graduated from Florida State University College of Law in 2005 and practices environmental and land-use law. The couple lives in North Fort Myers.

Natalie A. Stern, BA’03, writes that she has completed her master’s degree in elementary education at George Washington University. She lives in North Bethesda, Md.

Tandra Foster Stovall, BA’03, JD’06, is an associate for the law firm Stuart & Branigin. Her primary area of practice is litigation. An I-Woman in track, Stovall lives and works in Lafayette, Ind.

In June 2007, Alena A. Ruggerio, PhD’04, was promoted to associate professor with tenure at Southern Oregon University in Ashland, Ore. She and her husband, Bradley, celebrated their 10-year wedding university in September 2007. They live in Medford, Ore.

In September 2007, Elizabeth H. Burg, BA’05, became an account coordinator for the government and public relations firm O’Neill and Associates in Boston. She joined the firm’s communications practice. Previously, Burg served as a media relations intern for the company. She lives in Boston.

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Join today at alumni.indiana.edu.
Message from the chair

New home for a thriving department

First, let me invite all of you to stop by the Department of Communication and Culture’s new building at 800 E. Third St. This location finds us near the academic center of the campus and, also, a short walk away from the increasing array of restaurants clustered around 4th Street (a nice added benefit). Currently called the Classroom Office Building, this facility is still waiting for its official name. But after a move ably overseen by Amy Cornell, our new home in the Classroom Office Building has proven to be an attractive, spacious, and well-equipped headquarters.

We are delighted to have finally relocated from the Ashton complex on 10th Street. (Given the narrow corridors of Mottier, it took a while to get used to hallways that are roomy enough to accommodate more than two people at the same time.) Before the dust cleared over here, Mottier was already razed. The site has become, temporarily at least, an attractive bit of green space.

Our close proximity to Ballantine Hall, Memorial Hall, Kirkwood Avenue, and the Indiana Memorial Union underscores just how fully CMCL is integrated into the academic life of the campus. Our faculty is active in a host of important programs and initiatives — from the Hutton Honors College to the Indiana Democracy Consortium, the Kinsey Institute to the American Studies Program. CMCL plays a particularly vital part in strengthening IU’s standing as a university that embraces its role as an international institution, a role indebted to the foresight of Herman B Wells and reinvigorated during the last year by the commitment of IU President Michael McRobbie.

CMCL hosts Film Indiana

In September 2007, CMCL was pleased to sponsor Film Indiana: Screening Shorts, the first of what we hope will be a regular conference that draws on the vast IU archival film holdings and continues the long and distinguished tradition of film studies at IU.

Co-directed by Joan Hawkins, Barbara Klinger, and Gregory Waller, Film Indiana was funded by a major grant from IU’s New Frontiers program. The conference focused on short films produced in and out of the Hollywood system; from early motion pictures sponsored by businesses to wartime government-produced films, experimental shorts, and studio productions from the 1930s and 1940s.

Film Indiana featured keynote addresses from prominent film historians, Tom Gunning and Haidee Wasson, as well as presentations from a range of faculty members and graduate students from IU and other institutions in sessions devoted to exploring ways to think about short films, which have long been overlooked in academic film studies.

A highlight of Film Indiana was three public screenings of rarely seen films from IU’s archives, including a showing of classic erotica from the Kinsey Institute that drew an overflow crowd on campus. At the downtown Buskirk-Chumley Theater, Saturday-night viewers were treated to an evening of 16mm instructional films about gender, social behavior, and hygiene from the 1940s through 1960s. Keep your eye out for the next Film Indiana conference.

CMCL includes graduate students who come to IU from Bulgaria, China, Colombia, Israel, and Turkey, among other places — and others whose research has recently taken them to Mexico, Japan, Italy, and Brazil. Shelley-Jean Bradfield received a much-deserved dissertation year fellowship for her research on South African television, and the American Association of University Women awarded one of its highly competitive American Fellowships to Jasmine Nadua Trice, who spent two years in the Philippines doing research on contemporary cinema culture in Manila.

CMCL faculty members also enhance IU’s global initiatives and add luster to its profile beyond the borders of the United States. In addition to delivering papers at international conferences and publishing in international journals, CMCL faculty regularly teach in the International Studies Program and participate actively in endeavors such as IU’s widely recognized centers for East Asian Studies and Caribbean and Latin American Studies.

Yeidy Rivero’s scholarship on the history of television in the 1950s takes her to archives in Cuba; Josh Malitsky’s study of newsreels has, most recently, involved extensive research in Belgrade, Serbia, and Vienna, Austria. Ilana Gershon continues to work on the history of Maori participation in the New Zealand...
Carolyn Calloway-Thomas’ article, “Barbed Wire Enclosed Spaces and Places: Elites, Ethnic Tensions and Public Policy,” appears in Forum on Public Policy Online: A Journal of the Oxford Round Table, spring 2007. She presented a seminar on culture and class at the World Communication Association convention in Brisbane, Australia; was a keynote speaker at the “Women Commissioned and Empowered to Witness to the World” state conference in Indianapolis in June 2007; and gave a lecture titled “Piles of Stones: Communicating Interculturally” at Hope College on February 27.

Ilana Gershon continued interviewing for her research project on how people use new media to break up with each other, and started writing the book manuscript, The Break-Up 2.0: Disconnecting Over New Media. She received a POAET (Project on African Expressive Traditions) research grant to work on an offshoot of this project — how African-American undergraduates use the honesty box on Facebook.

Jane Goodman will conduct ethnographic research in France and Algeria in 2008–09, where she plans to start a new project on Algerian theater. She spent the past year brushing up her Arabic language skills and applying for funding. Her research will be supported by awards from Fulbright-Hayes, the American Council of Learned Societies/SSRC/NEH, the American Institute of Maghribi Studies, and the Indiana University New Frontiers Program. Goodman also had her coedited volume Bourdieu in Algeria accepted for publication by the University of Nebraska Press.

Mary Gray received a Spring 2008 College Arts and Humanities Institute Fellowship to wrap up her book project, Out in the Country: Youth, Media, and the Queering of Rural America, to be published with New York University Press in 2009. She received a $3,000 Investigator Development Award from the American Psychological Foundation to support her pilot project, Vulnerable Subjects: Scientific Practice, Institutional Review, and the Politics of Sex Research, an ethnographic study of Institutional Review Boards and their role in regulating youth sexuality studies.

Robert Ivie’s most recent book, Dissent from War, was published in fall 2007, the same semester he offered a new senior seminar in peace-building communication, which he will offer again in fall 2008 along with a graduate course in war propaganda. He edited a special issue of Presidential Studies Quarterly (December 2007) to which he contributed an essay, co-authored with Oscar Giner, on “Hunting the Devil: Democracy’s Rhetorical Impulse to War.” He also published an article in Journalism—The Public (the journal of the European Institute for Communication and Culture) on finessing the demonology of war and an article in Rhetoric and Public Affairs on rhetorical rites of redemption and reconciliation in the war on terror.


John Lucaites was promoted to full professor in 2007 and spent the 2007–08 year on leave with a College of Arts and Humanities Fellowship (Fall) and a sabbatical leave (Spring). Much of his time was spent as the editor of the Quarterly Journal of Speech and co-hosting www.nocaptionneeded.com, a blog devoted to the rhetorical analysis of photojournalism. His co-authored book (with Robert Hariman) No Caption Needed won the Bruce E. Gronbeck Award for work in Political Communication and the Susanne K. Langer Award for Outstanding Scholarship.

Phaedra Pezzullo’s book, Toxic Tourism: Rhetorics of Travel, Pollution, and Environmental Justice, won three awards at the National Communication Association Convention in November 2007: the James A. Winans-Herbert A. Wichels Memorial Award for Distinguished Scholarship in Rhetoric/Public Address; the Christine L. Oravec Research Award in Environmental Communication; and the Book of the Year Award for the Critical and Cultural Studies Division.

Jennifer Robinson is joining the faculty full time as a senior lecturer and director of C122 Interpersonal Communication. She is co-author of The Farmers’ Market Book: Growing Food, Cultivating Community and primary investigator for a three-year, $150,000 grant from the Teagle Foundation that supports graduate students’ preparation for teaching. She was elected president of the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in 2008.

Jon Simons’ research this year has focused on “democratic aesthetics.” He co-organized and presented a paper to a pre-conference seminar on the topic at the National Communication Association in November, and also organized and chaired panels on the same subject at the Cultural Studies Association meeting in May and the International Crossroads Association of Cultural Studies in Jamaica in July. Simons has taught new undergraduate and graduate classes about image culture and critique and is editing an issue of the journal Culture, Theory and Critique.

With Dick Bauman’s retirement, the department loses a founding member and a scholar whose wide-ranging intellectual curiosity led him to interconnect and transform seemingly disparate fields, from folklore, performance studies, and linguistic anthropology to American studies and Quaker studies.

Bauman built careful and rigorous theoretical scaffolding for these disciplines as he explored performance as a heightened reflexive social activity, language ideologies, and intertextuality. As a scholar, he managed to achieve for a number of disciplines what many despair of achieving for their own discipline — producing insights and analytical tools that are downright useful.

Bauman has also been an extremely generous mentor, helping students and colleagues through his ease at seeing the potential in their ideas along with his prodigious knowledge of academia as a bureaucratic system.

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1970s

In March 2007, Sue DeWine, PhD’77, was unanimously elected president of Hanover (Ind.) College. DeWine became the 15th president in the school’s 180-year history. Philip Scott, chairman of Hanover’s board of trustees, writes, “[DeWine’s] engaging personality immediately won the unanimous support of the search committee. We are confident that she will build on the successes of the past 20 years to take Hanover to new heights of academic excellence and financial strength.” Prior to Hanover, DeWine served as provost of Marietta (Ohio) College. From 1985 to 2000, she worked as a professor at Ohio University in organizational communication and research and consulting. DeWine received the Elizabeth G. Andersch Award from Ohio University for scholarship, teaching, and leadership and the Robert J. Kübler Outstanding Professional Award from the National Communication Association. She is married to Mike DeWine, a retired science teacher, and has two children.

1980s

Judith Davis Hoover, PhD’83, is professor emerita at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Ky. She began a four-year term as secretary general of the World Communication Association in January 2008. Hoover and her husband, Tom, have recently opened the Wren’s Next Bed and Breakfast in Russellville, Ky.

C. Brant Short, PhD’85, and his wife, Dayle Hardy-Short, PhD’88, recently published a study of the film *Hoosiers*. They write, “As graduate students at IU [Bloomington] in the early 1980s, we were drawn to the film when it was released (and, of course, we still love *Breaking Away*), and we wanted to write about it in our professional capacity as professors of speech communication at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff.”

Darryl R. Neher, MS’89, MA’96, is a senior lecturer for the IU Bloomington Kelley School of Business. He also serves as host of *The Afternoon Edition* show on radio station WGCL in Bloomington. In September 2007, Neher became a contributing columnist for IUHoosiers.com. He lives in Bloomington.

1990s

Alan D. DeSantis, PhD’93, is an associate professor at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, where he also serves as the university’s faculty athletics representative to the NCAA and the Southeastern Conference. DeSantis recently released *Inside Greek U: Fraternities, Sororities, and the Pursuit of Pleasure, Power, and Prestige*, published by the University Press of Kentucky. He lives in Lexington.

Sandra Sheets Gardiner, BA’93, JD’97, is an attorney for the law firm Morris Manning & Martin in Atlanta. In September 2007, she helped establish a video game and digital entertainment practice group with the firm. Gardiner lives in Atlanta.

Susan M. Sciane-Giescke, PhD’95, is dean of the IU Kokomo School of Arts and Sciences. In May 2007, she received the (continued on back page)
Graduate news

Shelley-Jean Bradfield received the Louise McNutt Graduate Fellowship for 2008–09.

David Coon will be starting as an assistant professor in the University of Washington Tacoma Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences Program.

Lori Hall-Araujo received a Tinker Field Research Grant for Latin America, FLAS Summer Fellowship for study in Brazil and a FLAS Academic Year Fellowship.

Isaac West accepted a tenure-track job in the University of Iowa Communication Studies Department. He also has two articles accepted for publication, one already in print in Women’s Studies in Communication and a forthcoming article in Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies.

Jasmine Trice has been awarded an American Fellowship from the American Association of University Women for 2008–09.

Jason Sperb edited (with Scott Balcerzak) Cinephilia in the Age of Digital Reproduction vol. 1, which is due out from Wallflower Press in the fall. Jason also has two book reviews appearing later this year in Film Criticism and Scope, respectively.

Amanda Keeler has an article in an anthology on the television series Gilmore Girls to be published in 2009 by Syracuse University Press titled: “Branding the Family Drama: Genre Formations and Critical Perspectives on Gilmore Girls.”

Suncem Kocer won the American Anthropological Association, Middle East Section’s best student award for his paper “Media Production and Transpolitics: Kurdish Ethnographic Documentary Filmmaking in Turkey.”

Jeff Motter is a visiting assistant professor in the rhetoric department at Wabash College. He and Melanie Loehwing won the 2008 Review of Politics Award for Best paper in Normative Political Theory from the Midwest Political Science Association.

Lorrie Brown Palmer wrote an article for Camera Obscura, which was edited by our incoming professor Alexander Doty, for a special issue on Divas (Issue 67: 23.1).

Natasha Ritsma received the Jack G.Shaheen Scholarship recognizing outstanding scholarship by Arab American students who study media.

Justin Rawlins also has an article in the upcoming Gilmore Girls anthology, titled “Your Guide to the Girls: Gilmore-isms, Cultural Capital, and a Different Kind of Quality TV.”

Peter Zhang accepted a position as a tenure-track assistant professor in the Grand Valley State University School of Communications in Allendale, Mich.

Undergraduate honors & achievements

Of the roughly 150 CMCL majors who graduated in May/August 2008, two students earned departmental honors by completing a senior honors thesis. Under the supervision of Professor Joan Hawkins, May graduate Andrew Helmkamp examined torture porn and the rhetoric of war. Jessica McCreight worked with Professor Phaedra Pazzullo and plans to finish her thesis this summer in time for an August graduation.

During the 2007–08 academic year, nine CMCL seniors were nominated for Phi Beta Kappa, the nation’s oldest and largest academic honor society. In fall 2007, Nicholas Brunner was inducted, while eight others joined in spring 2008: Thomas Cook, Jana Doyle, Alicia Glick, Alicia Knight, Stacey Lawrence, Allison Lyle, Katelyn Miner, and Kacy Ruklie.

Numerous departmental scholarships were awarded to outstanding rising seniors for 2008–09. The $1,500 Norvelle Scholarship was presented to Kyle Cowser, and MacDowell Gilman Scholarships ($1,000 each) were given to Lauren Cunningham, Erin Fenton, Christopher Funk, Audrey Irvin, Shelley Leshin, Maria Mullins, and Rosalyn Wells. — Tara Kaufman

Iris Film Festival and Brian Friedman Award

This year’s Iris festival featured 22 films and resulted in an entertaining as well as suspenseful evening. Tyler J. Kupferer won the animation category for his computer animation Ara. Kupferer is a student in Computer Graphics Technology at Purdue University, West Lafayette. The best nonfiction entry was Prizzy Prizzy Pleat “Flea Bomb,” a music video by Cory Hensley. Hensley, an IU telecommunications major, made his film in C460 Advanced Motion Picture Production.

The first prize for the best fiction film went to Annika Pampel for A No Fairy Fairy Tale, also produced in C460. Pampel will enter the MFA program in filmmaking at the Savannah College of Art and Design this fall. Finally, the Brian Friedman award for the best work made in a CMCL course went to James Lindsay for his film And So It Goes. Lindsay made this film as his C497 Independent Study project (studying with Susanne Schwibs). He graduated this spring and we wish him the best of luck for his future. Amanda Keeler organized this year’s Iris Festival, and many thanks go to this year’s judges Greg Waller, Ted Striphas, Karen Bowdre, and Amanda Fleming.

Communication & Culture

This newsletter is published by the Indiana University Alumni Association, in cooperation with the Department of Communication & Culture and the College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Association, to encourage alumni interest in and support for Indiana University. For activities and membership information, call (800) 824-3044 or send e-mail to iualumni@indiana.edu.
Faculty notes (continued from page 2)

CMCL welcomes new faculty

Max Dawson has completed his dissertation in Northwestern University’s Screen Cultures PhD Program in the Department of Radio, Television, & Film. He previously earned a BA in Modern Culture and Media from Brown University and an MA in Media and Communications from the University of New South Wales (Australia). His dissertation, “TV Repair: New Media ‘Solutions’ to Old Media Problems” is a critical exploration of the history of the idea that technological innovation holds the key to remedying the cultural, political, and social problems posed by television. Max has published articles on television history and aesthetics in the journals Technology & Culture and Convergence, and has chapters forthcoming on TV-new media convergence in a number of edited collections. Prior to joining CMCL, he taught courses on television and media studies at Columbia College, Loyola University, and Northwestern University.

Alex Doty was born in a trunk at the Princess Theatre in Pocatello, Idaho. If you get that reference, then you won’t be surprised to discover that I teach and work in GLBTQ film and media studies. I was actually born in a military hospital in Waltham, Mass., the year the film I quote above came out. My family, however, finally claimed west Texas as home, and, after decades of resistance, I have grown fond of the land of tumbleweeds, roadrunners, and horned toads. I received my BA from the University of Texas—El Paso (or “Harvard on the Border” as it is known on bumper stickers), and my MA and PhD from the University of Illinois-Urbana. Previous to coming to Indiana, I held positions at The American University in Cairo and at Lehigh University, which is in Bethlehem, just down the road from Nazareth and Egypt, Pennsylvania. I have published Making Things Perfectly Queer: Interpreting Mass Culture; Flaming Classics: Queering the Film Canon; as well as co-edited Out in Culture: Lesbian, Gay, and Queer Essays on Popular Culture; and edited two special issues on Camera Obscura: “Fabulous! Divas I and II.” My current scholarship includes a co-written book (with IU’s own Pattie Ingram) on the monstrous and the medieval, a project on contemporary film melodrama, articles on Marlene Dietrich and Elizabeth Taylor, and “Queer Hitchcock.” I am thrilled to be at an institution that supported Kinsey’s work.

Jennifer Robinson joins the department’s faculty as a senior lecturer and director of C122 Interpersonal Communication. She has a PhD in English from Indiana University and most recently directed Campus Instructional Consulting, the award-winning teaching center at IU. In addition to C122, she will teach undergraduate courses in performance and ethnography, including in environmental communication. She is author of The Farmers’ Market Book: Growing Food, Cultivating Community with Jeff Hartenfeld and co-editor of a forthcoming book about teaching environmental literacy. She is the primary investigator for a three-year, $150,000 grant from the Teagle Foundation to develop a model interdisciplinary approach that prepares graduate students to be reflective teachers who base their teaching on appropriate learning theory and revise it based on evidence of student learning. She was elected president of the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in 2008. She lives in Greene County, Ind., on a flower farm with her husband Jeff and her dog June Carter.

Ivie travels to Slovenia

Hosted by the Media Studies Department of the University of Ljubljana in the capital city of Slovenia, Robert Ivie delivered a series of lectures throughout the month of May to graduate and undergraduate students in communication theory and public opinion classes on the subjects of war propaganda and democratic dissent.

Ivie also delivered a public lecture on contested images of national security in the 2008 U.S. Presidential Primaries. The University of Ljubljana is home for the European Institute for Communication and Culture, which publishes Javnost—The Public, an interdisciplinary and international journal of research that addresses problems of the public sphere.

Additionally, as a member of an interdisciplinary working group of Indiana University’s Democracy Consortium, Ivie traveled to Budapest, Hungary, in June to explore intersecting research interests with democracy scholars at Central European University.