

Indiana University

Folklore
Institute

Traditions

Alumni News

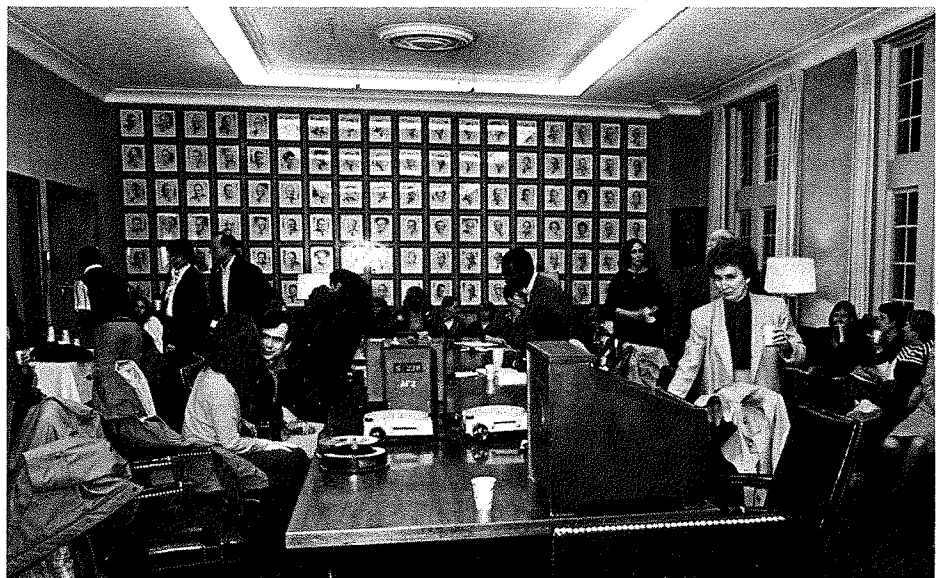
Vol. 3, No. 2 College of Arts & Sciences – Graduate School Alumni Association Spring 1988

New courses: African space, archiving, and professionalism

Three exciting new courses are being offered during the spring and summer of 1988.

In a spring seminar entitled **African Dimensions of Space**, Ruth M. Stone explores ideas about how space either generates or explains significant forms of behavior. In Mande societies, for example, people conceive of space as a continuum that ranges from realms of safety and sloth to realms of danger, adventure, and daring accomplishment. While the mother's sleeping quarters constitute the safest of places, the town beyond one's own residence grows exponentially in complexity, opportunity, and danger; and the bush is the most dangerous space of all, filled with potent physical, social, and supernatural forces. A number of guest speakers will assist IU faculty in demonstrating how ideas about space affect people's lives: Warren d'Azevedo (University of Nevada), William Murphy (Northwestern University), Margaret Thompson Drewel (New York University), Suzanne Blier (Columbia University), Kris Hardin (University of Pennsylvania), Papa Samba Diop (Bayreuth University), Barbara Hampton (Hunter College), and Terence Ranger (Oxford University).

The Archives of Traditional Music will offer **Phonorecordings, Phono-archives, and Archiving Principles** in Summer Session I. Taught by Dorothy Sara Lee, the course will focus on the particular needs and concerns of small, community-based archives and cultural centers. Topics will include the history and development of ethnographic archives, field collecting, equipment, design and planning, preservation, documentation, on-line (OCLC) and microcomputer use, cataloging, acquisitions, resources, and archival networks. Additionally, students will discuss central issues in archiving, such as ethics and the development of community support. Class projects and assignments will



RUTH STONE (right) explores *African Dimensions of Space* this spring.

feature practical experience in working with laboratory equipment, computers, and field collections.

How do you construct a vita? Find out where the jobs are? Write a job letter? Choose a dissertation topic? Get a federal grant? Get tenure? Build up professionally persuasive credentials? This summer (Intensive III), in a course entitled **The Profession of Folklore**, Richard Bauman will

offer some of the practical knowledge folklore and ethnomusicology students need to have but are rarely taught as they progress through graduate school. In this new course, he will tackle questions related to gathering the necessary information and engaging in the appropriate planning and strategy for securing academic or public-sector positions.

"Voices of Africa" subject of summer outreach program for high-school teachers

"Voices of Africa and the Diaspora" is a new venture of the African Studies Program, in collaboration with the Folklore Institute, Afro-American Studies, and the School of Music. Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, this summer institute is scheduled for July 11–22 and is open to elementary and secondary music teachers throughout the United States. Places are limited to 25 participants. The

Institute will provide teachers with effective ways to integrate African and Afro-American music into their general music courses. From the Folklore Institute, Ruth M. Stone is among the summer institute faculty, while ethnomusicology student Cheryl Keyes will perform Afro-American vocal, piano, and flute music as one of several featured artist-performers.

Alumni, far and near

Word comes from far and near about recent alumni activities and accomplishments. **Enoch Timpunza Mvula** (PhD'87) is chairing the Department of Chichewa and Linguistics at the University of Malawi. **Abdullahi A. Ibrahim** (PhD'87) has been appointed to the Folklore Department of the Afro-Asian Institute at the University of Khartoum in the Sudan, while **Carla Bianco** (PhD'72) is the new chair of folklore at the University of Rome.

Closer to home, **Yildiray Erdener** (PhD'87) and **Martha Norkunas** (who is completing her dissertation in folklore) have accepted positions as humanists in two Massachusetts communities. This spring semester, **Sue Tuohy** (PhD'88) is a visiting lecturer in IU's Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures; and as a visiting research associate in the East Asian Studies Center, she is working on a project entitled "Ethnicity in China." After defending her dissertation on the fantasies and humor of Finnish and American adolescent girls, **Mary Koske** began a position at UCLA as a visiting lecturer teaching introductory and Finnish folklore classes. **Elaine Lawless** (PhD'82), assistant professor of folklore and English, reports that English majors may now establish a folklore emphasis at the University of Missouri, while non-majors may complete a folklore minor.

Lawless is also among alumni who have published or been honored for recent publications. Her book, *We Are Peculiar People: Women's Voices and Folk Tradition in a Pentecostal Church*, appeared in the fall of 1987 from the University Press of Kentucky, while *Handmaidens of the Lord: Women Preachers and Pentecostal Tradition* was released jointly this spring by the University of Pennsylvania Press and the American Folklore Society. In 1987, Indiana University Press published *Earnest Games: Folklore Patterns in the Canterbury Tales* by **Carl Lindahl** (PhD'80). **Elissa Henken** (PhD'87) was shortlisted for the Katherine Briggs Folklore Award for her 1987 book, *Traditions of the Welsh Saints* (Boydell & Brewer in England). In a recent issue of IU's *Arts and Sciences* magazine, *Belle Gunness: The Lady Bluebeard*, written by **Janet Langlois** (PhD'77) and published in 1985 by Indiana University Press, is included with eight other books in a column entitled "What Should You Read?" Langlois is in the good company of such other authors as Stephen Jay Gould, Mary McCarthy, and V. S. Naipaul. **Timothy Cochrane** (PhD'87) received honorable mention in the annual competition sponsored by the Fellows of the American Folklore Society for his paper, "The Concept of Ecotypes in American Folklore," published in volume 24 of the *Journal of Folklore Research*.

Associates conduct research

Jane Bowers, who has been a research associate at the Institute since fall of 1987, was recently twice honored for her co-edited book, *Women Making Music: The Western Art Tradition, 1150-1950* (University of Illinois Press). At its 20th annual reception, the ASCAP-Deems Taylor Awards for outstanding print coverage of music recognized Bowers's book along with eight other titles. Her work also was awarded a prize from the International Congress on Women in Music. She continues to be in residence until May, working on women's music-making around the world.

We are pleased to welcome two new associates. Dr. **Suzuki Mitzuo**, a Japanese folklorist and anthropologist at Yamaguchi University, will be pursuing research projects while at the Institute. He will examine the relevance of recent developments in American folklore studies to scholarship in East Asia, and he will compare the political significance of folklore studies in East Asia, Japan, Korea, China, and Taiwan. Dr. **Mirna Velčić**, a linguist from the University of Zagreb, will work in Bloomington from March through June as a Fulbright Research Scholar. The author of 27 articles, she published her first book, *Introduction to Discourse Theory*, this past fall in Yugoslavia. While at the Insti-

tute, she will continue her research to develop an integrative theory of written and oral forms of discourse. Velčić's stay in Bloomington resulted in large measure from the acquaintance she established last summer with Indiana folklorists at the Budapest conference organized by Linda Dégh and Tamás Hofer as part of an eight-year collaboration between American and Hungarian folklorists (see fall 1987 *Traditions*).

New folklore journal in Indiana

The fall 1987 issue of *Midwestern Folklore*, the official new journal of the Hoosier Folklore Society, will soon be available to readers. **Ronald Baker** (PhD'68), professor in the English Department at Indiana State University, is the editor. The main emphasis of *Midwestern Folklore* will be on materials about the state and the region, although theoretical and comparative folklore themes will also be included from time to time. In the spring of 1988, the journal will publish a bibliography of Indiana folklore for the period 1973-1987 that was compiled by Polly Grimshaw, folklore librarian at Indiana University.

1987 Institute donors

During the last year, many activities have been made possible through the contributions of our Folklore Institute faculty, alumni, and friends. Two doctoral students are conducting fieldwork with partial support from the Richard M. Dorson Dissertation Awards for Fieldwork: Michael Largey is in Haiti, and Moira Smith is in New Zealand. Robert Walls received recognition and monetary reward for the scholarship he demonstrated in an outstanding graduate student paper, an award also made possible through the Dorson Memorial Fund. Contributions to the Folklore Enrichment, Ethnomusicology Program, and Dorson Memorial funds benefited staffing in the Dorson Library, *Traditions*, various campus events, and the AFS Indiana Alumni Reception.

As a direct result of increased contributions, we are able to raise the Dorson Awards for Dissertation Fieldwork to \$1,000 for the 1988-1989 academic year. The winners will be announced and their projects described in the next issue of *Traditions*.

We take this opportunity to thank those people who made contributions in 1987. All of us at the Folklore Institute appreciate your support, encouragement, and letters. Your letters are just as important to us when they offer constructive criticism of our efforts as they are when they extend a pat on the back.

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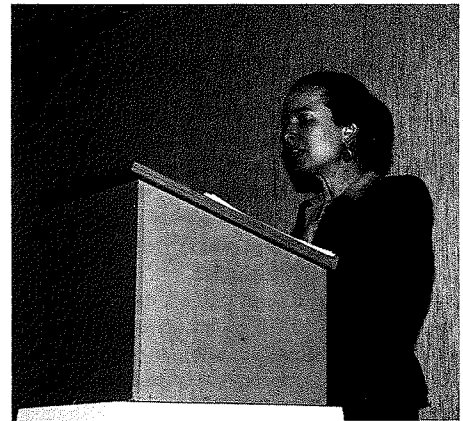
Folklorists talk

Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett spoke on "Tourism: Performing Ethnographic Spaces" during a visit to Bloomington in January 1988. She delivered a stimulating and challenging lecture in the Mathers Museum of Anthropology, History, and Folklore, to an audience of some 100 people, many of whom stayed afterwards for the reception. The broad scholarly appeal of Kirshenblatt-Gimblett's work was evidenced by the many sponsors for this Horizons of Knowledge lecture: the Folklore Institute, the Department of Anthropology, the Center for Semiotic Studies, the Jewish Studies Program, and the Interdisciplinary Performance Seminar (organized by Beverly J. Stoeltje in folklore and Timothy Wiles in English).

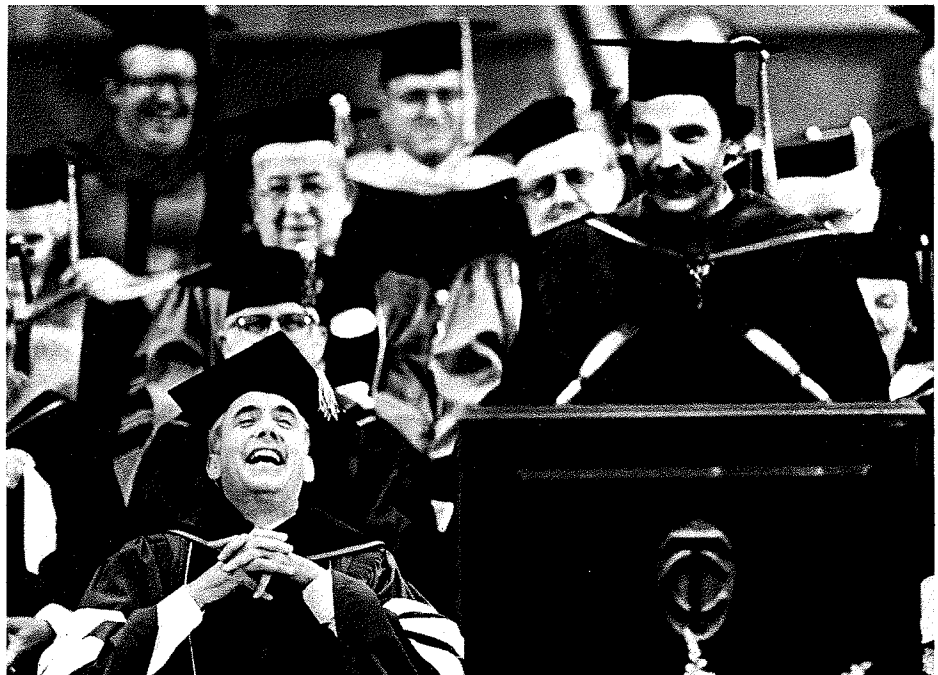
Drawing upon tourist literature, travel accounts, and even the *Banana Republic* clothing catalog, Kirshenblatt-Gimblett raised provocative questions about the relationship between tourism, ethnography, and the construction of culture. She considered some of the concepts fundamental to the enterprise of ethnography, such as the Exotic and the Familiar and the multiple ways to code and express them in today's world.

We also were fortunate to have Henry Glassie visit Indiana University, not once but twice during the current academic year. He first came in October, at the invitation of IU's new president, Thomas Ehrlich, who had been a colleague of Glassie's at the University of Pennsylvania. Glassie was a featured speaker at the inauguration ceremonies on the Indianapolis campus of IU. He spoke highly of Thomas Ehrlich and also included some well-chosen words about folklore, making it a proud day for us as well as for the president.

During his October visit Glassie also presented a lecture, taking Turkish rugs and the women who make them as his topic. When he returned to Bloomington on January 29, his theme was the style of Turkish folk art. Audience members could see for themselves the beautiful art works and their makers as Glassie showed slides illustrating each point he made. Both lectures, and the receptions that followed them, were very well attended, not only by faculty and students in the sponsoring departments (the Turkish Studies Program and the Departments of Folklore, Anthropology, Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, and Uralic and Altaic Studies), but also by others attracted to Glassie's wide-ranging work.



TOURISM AND ETHNOGRAPHY was Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett's lecture topic.



HENRY GLASSIE (right) gets a laugh at the inauguration of President Thomas Ehrlich.

Traditions

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Faculty activities

Since last fall's *Traditions*, our faculty have published books, been elected to positions in scholarly societies, initiated new research projects, and traveled widely to attend conferences, give lectures, teach classes, and conduct fieldwork.

Among the highlights of this activity is the recent publication by the UMI Research Press of a collection of articles by **Warren E. Roberts**, *Viewpoints on Folklore: Looking at the Overlooked*. The book, which includes sections on folk craft, tools, folk architecture, and folk arts, explores the role of folklife research in uncovering what historians traditionally have ignored.

Ruth M. Stone, who was elected vice-president of the Society for Ethnomusicology in October 1987, has launched a new course at the Institute and will be participating in a new outreach program with African Studies (see p. 1, this issue).

Sandra K. D. Stahl organized the folklore section for the 1987 MLA conference; and this past summer, under a fellowship from the Indiana Committee for the Humanities, she researched family stories of the Northwest settlement period to the present. Later this year she will present her findings in lectures to community groups in Huntington, Indiana, where she gathered her materials.

Ronald R. Smith currently is spending a month at the University of Seville as part of a faculty exchange agreement with IU. He will lecture, work in the Archive of the Indies on a project to study eighteenth-century religious brotherhoods in Panama, and observe Holy Week activities.

Richard Bauman's *Story, Performance, and Event: Contextual Studies of Oral Narrative* (Cambridge University Press) was awarded second place in the Chicago Folklore Prize Competition and was on the Short List for the Katherine Briggs Folklore Award.



JOHN JOHNSON, of the folklore faculty, and friend in Somalia.

Our newest PhDs

In 1987 and early 1988, nine of our students joined the ranks of folklore PhDs. We list them in chronological order with the titles of their dissertations, from May 1987 through February 1988, and we extend our congratulations to all.

Elissa R. Henken: "The Development of a National Redeemer as Seen in the Character of Owain Glyndwr in Welsh Folklore, Literature, and History"

Diane Tebbets: "Transmission of Folklore Patterns in Two Rural Arkansas Ethnic Groups: The Germans and Italians in Perry County"

Regina Bendix: "Playing William Tell: Lay Actors and their Associations in Two

Swiss Communities"

Yildiray Erdener: "Dueling Singers: Interaction Processes and Strategies"

Gloria Gibson: "The Cultural Significance of Music to the Black Independent F' maker"

Enoch Timpunza Mvula: "Women's Oral Poetry as a Social Strategy in Malawi"

Abdullahi Ali Ibrahim: "Assaulting with Words: The Sociopoetics of the Rubatab Evil-Eye Metaphors"

Richard Anderson: "'Taiken': Personal Narratives and Japanese New Religions"

Sue Tuohy: "Imagining the Chinese Tradition: The Case of Hua'er Songs, Festivals, and Scholarship"

Chungmoo Choi: "The Competence of Korean Shamans as Performers of Folklore"

. . . of student awards, publications, activities

Congratulations are in order for a number of our students. **John Wolford** and **Lee Irwin** each were awarded the highly competitive Indiana University Doctoral Student Research Fellowship. With a fellowship for the 1987-88 academic year, Wolford will write his dissertation on "The History and Folklore of Shaker Business." Irwin will work on "The Bridge of Dreams: Prophecy and Dreams among Native American Shamans" under his fellowship for the spring semester of 1988. **Bruce Harrah-Conforth** will continue work on his dissertation with the help of a grant-in-aid of research from IU. With funding from the L. C. and Mary Skaggs Foundation, Conforth will complete a book under contract to Indiana University Press, "The Traditionalizing of Rock and Roll." **Mary Beth Stein** was this year's recipient of the American Folklore Society Fellows Prize for "Coming to Terms with the Past: The Depiction of *Volkskunde* in the Third Reich since 1945," which appears in vol. 24 of

the *Journal of Folklore Research*.

Jongsung Yang continues to be an active dance instructor, conducting a weekly workshop on Korean shamanistic dance at IU. Last fall **Timothy Evans** accepted a position as the Wyoming State Folklorist through the American Studies Program at the University of Wyoming. **Paul Tyler** spent eight weeks last summer collecting music from traditional and ethnic folk musicians as part of a project sponsored by the Illinois Arts Council. **Susanne P. Ilen** at IU-Kokomo has been elected president of the Hoosier Folklore Society, and her article, "Copy Books: A Reflection of Family Tradition," will appear in *Midwestern Folklore*. Several students and alumni will be reading papers at the 1988 Baltic Studies Conference in College Park, Maryland, among them **Carl Rahkonen**, **Guntis Šmidchens**, **Egle Žygas**, **Ričardas Vidutis**, and **Inta Gāle Carpenter**, who is division chair for folklore panels.

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