From the chair

Interest in classical studies remains very strong at IUB

As the school year comes to a close, I am happy to report that the Department of Classical Studies has had another busy and productive year. Interest in classical studies remains very strong among undergraduates at IU, with nearly 100 majors currently on our books: this represents a quadrupling of our number of majors over the past decade! The department also continues to attract strong graduate enrollments, with a record number of students entering in 2006 and 2007. Numbers tell only part of the story, however. As the reports in this newsletter from our director of undergraduate studies, Cynthia Bannon, and director of graduate studies, Eleanor Leach, indicate, we are fortunate to have students at all levels who are not only academically committed and accomplished, but involved within and outside the academy in improving their communities in a variety of ways.

The department is delighted to welcome to its faculty Margaretha Kramer-Hajos, who specializes in Greek art and archaeology. Margaretha took a BA and MA in classics and a MEd in teaching classical languages and civilization at the University of Groningen, Netherlands, and a PhD at Cornell University. Upon completing her studies at Cornell, she taught for a year at the University of Michigan before joining us in a visiting position in 2006–07; in fall 2007, she begins her tenure-track appointment in the department. Margaretha is a talented teacher and scholar, whose revised dissertation on Mycenaean civilization in East Lokris will be published by British Archaeological Reports. In fall 2007, we will also be fortunate to have Josiah Davis joining us as visiting assistant professor. Josiah took his BA at Brown (summa cum laude) and MPhil in classics at Cambridge, and he has just completed his PhD at the University of Pennsylvania with a dissertation titled “Latin Texts and Latin Culture at Praeneste: 700 BC-14 AD.” Plans are already under way to host David Porter as our second Case Visiting Professor in fall 2008. David, who is currently on the faculty at Williams College, is a talented musician and classicist who has served as president at Carleton and Skidmore.

The life of the department continues to be enriched by the Program in Ancient Studies, which brings together students and faculty from some 10 departments with common interests in the study of antiquity. The program, which is directed by Bert Harrill (Department of Religious Studies), brings distinguished lecturers to campus, sponsors a colloquium series, and offers a PhD minor in ancient studies. In the past year, the program brought in distinguished visitors Christopher Gill (University of Exeter, UK) and Glen Bowersock (Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton). In the coming year, it will host a conference in the fall, “The End of Everything: Catastrophe and Community in the Ancient Mediterranean and Near Eastern Worlds,” and it will bring Ian Morris (Stanford University) to campus in the spring. The Department of Classical Studies has a very full lecture schedule planned for 2007–08 and is co-sponsoring a visit in the spring term by Martha Nussbaum, renowned classicist and public intellectual (University of Chicago), who will hold the prestigious Patten lectureship.

As I complete my second year as chair, I would like to thank our office staff, Derek Vint and Yvette Rollins, for their hard work in making our department function smoothly; Kim Hinton, our undergraduate staff adviser, for her very professional support of the undergraduate mission of the department; Cynthia Bannon, our energetic director of undergraduate studies; Eleanor Leach, our indefatigable director of graduate studies; our dedicated faculty; our fine students, undergraduate and graduate; and our generous alumni, whose support makes everything we do possible.

— Matt Christ
Although classics majors all share a fascination with the world of the Greeks and Romans, they bring diverse interests and skills to their study of the ancient world. These varied interests are reflected in their other majors, as for many students, classics is only one of two or even three majors. We celebrate the diversity of our students every year in the Senior Recognition Ceremony, when we hear about their achievements. This year’s seniors have enriched campus life through their participation on residential committees and in marching band, and in research about the classical artifacts at the Kinsey Institute. While in Bloomington, they also contributed to the local community through volunteer work for Habitat for Humanity, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, the Libertarian party, the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life, and the Tax-Aide Program. After graduation, law school continues to be a popular destination for classics majors, but some are heading into high school teaching, where they will train the next generation of our students. One senior will be starting a business with her father, while another departs for an adventure with the Peace Corps in the south Pacific. These are just a few examples, but they are inspiring,

Graduating seniors are, from left: Virginia Clifton, Jenie Aerin (junior), Hollister Pritchett, Ashley Minnig, Eric Svoboda, Sarah Coleman, and Michelle Blackburn.

not just to their faculty mentors but also to other students who are still working on their degrees at IUB.

Classics majors seem to travel a great deal. Many seniors had spent time abroad during their undergraduate careers either on their own backpacking in Europe or on formal study abroad programs — one senior even taught English to high school students while on IU’s yearlong exchange program at the University of Bologna. This summer, several students will participate in programs abroad, including archaeological excavations and field school. In the fall, Brooke Owens (double major in Latin and classical civilization) will attend the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome. Three of these trips will be supported by departmental Pratt Traveling Fellowships!

The undergraduate program attracted nearly 100 majors again this year, and the number of Greek majors is growing, a happy situation resulting at least in part from the fine instruction offered by our recently hired Hellenists, Madeleine Goh and Jon Ready. Our academic adviser, Kim Hinton, joined the department in January, bringing enthusiastic support and good advice to our majors. The Peer Tutoring Program for Elementary Latin continues to be successful for everyone involved; in fact, it is not clear who gets more out of it, the tutors or the students they teach! This year, we expanded the program in two ways. On campus, Julianne Martin, a veteran tutor, held regular office hours at the Academic Support Center at Briscoe, a program funded by Academic Support Services. The peer tutors also moved off campus to offer tutoring to Latin students at the Bloomington high schools, an initiative that we hope to continue next year.

In addition to winning departmental scholarships, our majors were recognized for their academic achievement at the College of Arts and Sciences and beyond. In fall 2006, 19 classical studies majors were on the dean’s list. In the College’s scholarship competition, Shannon Larson won both the Dean D. and Jo Ann Aulick Scholarship and the Stephen F. Cohen and Katrina Vanden Heuvel Scholarship. This spring, senior Jason Covert and junior Emma Young were elected to Phi Beta Kappa. At the awards ceremony, senior Hollister Pritchett was presented with the Classical Association of the Middle West and South Award for Excellence in Classical Studies. As for departmental scholarships, I am grateful to our donors for making it possible for us to support so many of our students — 13 this year! A full list of departmental awards can be found on page 4. Congratulations to all!

Now that summer is coming, many of us will be traveling or at least enjoying a change of scene as we move from the classroom to research and writing and other pursuits. I hope all your travels are relaxing and rewarding. You can keep up with the department through our Web site, www.indiana.edu/~classics. And don’t forget to send us your news on the reply form on the back page of this newsletter!

— Cynthia Bannon, Associate Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies
2007 report on the graduate program

Despite the short space of time between this and our most recent Classical Studies at IU edition, the activities and achievements of our graduate students, and no less our graduate alumni, have provided much news to report.

The eight new members who entered in August are becoming well acclimated, as demonstrated by the fact that some are already making inroads into their MA exams, the first stage for candidates for all degrees. Several of these entering students came from post-baccalaureate experiences. Diana Beuster, this year’s Departmental Fellow, received her previous education at the University of Leipzig, where she also participated in museum work; history and numismatics are her special interests. Students and some associate instructors involved in our department between 1996 and 2000 may remember undergraduate classics major Gabe Grabarek, BA’00. In the year following graduation, Grabarek entered the master’s program at Florida State University, and, upon receiving his degree, he spent three years in the high school classroom and on the playing field, most recently at Pope John Paul II High School in Tennessee, where his cultural knowledge of basketball as a slam-dunk game was challenged by needing to teach the dribble. Participation during summer 2005 in an NEH Institute on Roman lyric poetry was the turning point in his decision to reenter graduate studies. Kenneth Draper, a 2005 graduate of Northwestern University, posted his application forms from the French village Argenton-sur-Creuse, where he was spending the year as a teaching assistant in English. Chelsea Jensen, who graduated from the University of Nebraska in 2005, participated last year in the University of Pennsylvania’s intensive program. Our remaining members, Benjamin Finnegam, Alan Fleming, Sarah Tilson, and Jessamyn Wehneyer, have come to Indiana directly from their colleges.

All four members of our 2005 entering class completed their class work and examinations on schedule for the MA degree (see “Degrees Awarded” in sidebar, below). While Casey Simpson has decided to seek his fortunes in the employment world, the remainder are now proceeding to the PhD. To those of you who are familiar with our student body, you will recognize many familiar names as they proceed to the graduate program. Several of these entering students came from post-baccalaureate experiences. Diana Beuster, this year’s Departmental Fellow, received her previous education at the University of Leipzig, where she also participated in museum work; history and numismatics are her special interests. Students and some associate instructors involved in our department between 1996 and 2000 may remember undergraduate classics major Gabe Grabarek, BA’00. In the year following graduation, Grabarek entered the master’s program at Florida State University, and, upon receiving his degree, he spent three years in the high school classroom and on the playing field, most recently at Pope John Paul II High School in Tennessee, where his cultural knowledge of basketball as a slam-dunk game was challenged by needing to teach the dribble. Participation during summer 2005 in an NEH Institute on Roman lyric poetry was the turning point in his decision to reenter graduate studies. Kenneth Draper, a 2005 graduate of Northwestern University, posted his application forms from the French village Argenton-sur-Creuse, where he was spending the year as a teaching assistant in English. Chelsea Jensen, who graduated from the University of Nebraska in 2005, participated last year in the University of Pennsylvania’s intensive program. Our remaining members, Benjamin Finnegam, Alan Fleming, Sarah Tilson, and Jessamyn Wehneyer, have come to Indiana directly from their colleges.

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Around the department

2007 awards and scholarships

Classical Association of the Middle West and South, Award for Outstanding Accomplishment in Classical Studies
- Hollister Pritchett

Lillian Gay Berry Latin Scholarship
- Jenrie Aerin, Jennifer Thompson

David and Jenny Curry Scholarship
- Kristin Emery, Jennifer Hoit, Wendi Ketchem, Shannon Larson, Benjamin Miller

Alice Fox Scholarship
- Chelsea Jensen, Julianne Martin, Brooke Owens

Gertrude Johnson Scholarship
- Brandon Fouch

Norton-Mavor Latin Prize
- Alison Wildin

Verne Schuman Scholarship
- Jennifer Hoit

Norman T. Pratt Traveling Fellowship
- Virginia Clifton, Julianne Martin, Brooke Owens, Bruce Warren

Welcome to our new graduate students

Fall 2006
- Diana Beuster, University of Leipzig
- Kenneth Draper, Northwestern University
- Benjamin Finnegan, Hillsdale College
- Alan Flemming, Grand Valley State University
- Gabe Grabarek, BA’00, Florida State University (MA)
- Chelsea Jensen, University of Pennsylvania
- Sarah Tilson, Indiana University
- Jessamyn Wehmeyer, Valparaiso University

Fall 2007
- Dianne Boetsch, Whitman College 2007
- Kristina Bradley, DePauw University 2006
- Laura Brant, Miami University (Ohio) 2006
- Christopher Haney, University of Chicago, master’s program in the Divinity School
- Jennifer Jarnigan, Louisiana Scholars College
- Robert Nichols, University of Colorado, MA 2007
- Hollister Pritchett, Indiana University, BA 2007
- Michael Vasta, Illinois Wesleyan 2007

Flipping (continued from page 3)

— including a new character, who had been born a princess — the women she meets on her journey, and her twin daughters, now grown women.

The Penelopiad, on the other hand, is the story of Penelope’s whole life, told retrospectively from the other side of the Styx. Penelope’s shade wants to defend herself, ostensibly against other versions, but actually against her own guilty conscience. She is overwhelmed by remorse about the hanging of the 12 maids at the end of the Odyssey. These slave women had consorted with the suitors not out of disloyalty to the household of Odysseus, but as Penelope’s spies, something she failed to let either Eurykleia or Odysseus know about. Unlike Rawlings’s character, Atwood’s Penelope speaks a modern idiom, using words like “factoid” and phrases such as “a dime a dozen.” And yet, like Rawlings, Atwood adopts an ancient form to structure her novel — not epic, however, but drama; alternating with the main narrative, like an ancient chorus, are songs by the 12 hung maids, which comment on Penelope’s account and undermine it. Paradoxically, Penelope’s modern idiom serves to accentuate her ancient mentality as a slave-owning aristocrat. While Rawlings’s character derives strength from her close relationships with other women, the loneliness of Atwood’s character began long before she had even met Odysseus; according to this Penelope’s bitter and self-pitying account, she was isolated and alone her whole life, and, indeed, her cynical self-absorption makes her an increasingly unsympathetic narrator.

Homer’s Penelope is as famous for weaving as for fidelity, and it should come as no surprise that these two avatars of her, so different in other ways, also have entirely different attitudes toward this craft. Atwood’s Penelope detests references to her “web” because of the word’s spidery connotations. With characteristic cynicism, she speaks of her weaving as a way to pass the time, to preclude criticism for idleness, and to avoid answering questions by pretending not to have heard them. For Rawlings’s character, on the other hand, weaving provides the controlling metaphor of her life; her narrative abounds in terms and images from weaving. Furthermore, this is another aspect of her solidarity with other women; she learns patterns and techniques from other women, and from Helen she also learns to think of the images woven into the fabric of these tapestries as a female alternative to the male tradition of heroic song.

The springs of Helicon have always been a renewable resource. These two radically different readings of Penelope are but further illustrations of that fact. Future installments of this column will consider other examples, including, perhaps, a series of graphic novels based on the Trojan cycle and a cinematic updating of Plato’s Symposium (directed by an IU alumnus).

— Betty Rose Nagle, Professor
Graduate program (continued from page 3)

With nearby Cincinnati as its host city, the April Classical Association of the Middle West and South meeting was virtually preempted by the Indiana contingent. Titles of the eight papers our students presented are listed at right. When Professor James Franklin heard the number, he remarked that the meeting might as well take place here, but that’s not the idea. Part of the adventure was its location in the elegantly art deco Netherland Hotel, and another the lavishly generous post-sessions reception on the campus of Xavier University, where Professor Timothy Long earned his undergraduate degree. Unfortunately the spectacular baseball stadium did not offer a home game to round out the weekend, but the largest ever “Indiana Hour” reunion brought several now-illustrious graduates together with their present successors. Recent PhDs Julie Langford-Johnson, MA’97, MA’98, PhD’05, of South Florida, and Rebecca Edwards, MA’00, PhD’03, of Wright State University, not only presented papers but also acted as session chairs. By virtue of my attendance at the CAMWS business meeting, I had the pleasure of seeing our MAT student Chelsea Jenson accept a Manson Stewart Teacher Training award, a prize given to help defray some of the extraordinary expenses incurred by students aiming for secondary-school certification.

Once again the perennially supportive Norman T. Pratt Traveling Summer Fellowships have enabled our students to gain firsthand acquaintance of Greek or Roman antiquities in context. At this year’s April awards ceremony, fourth-year student Erin Taylor presented an account of her travels last summer with a Vergilian Society study group on a coast-to-coast itinerary of sites and museums across the territory of Magna Graecia. For her few subsequent days in Rome, Taylor was happy for the opportunity to view the restored and re-housed Ara Pacis, her first-ever sight of the monument, and others such as Palazzo Altemps in keeping with her PhD minor in art history. Our second Pratt Winner last year, Corinne Shirley, now at work on an Ovidian dissertation, participated in the American School of Classical Studies at Athens second summer session.

For the coming summer, Bruce Warren will employ his fellowship as a member of another Vergilian Society Tour, the standard Campanian circuit, for which he has been storing knowledge and enthusiasm for the past two years in a variety of our art historical courses. Also in Rome, Kelly Northrup has received a full scholarship from the Virginia-based Amy High Foundation to enable her participation in an advanced section of the celebrated summer program in oral Latin conducted by Father Reginald Foster. The scholarship comes from funds raised by the Fairfax County Latin teachers in memory of one of their number who had been an enthusiastic participant in the program. Having finished her MAT in December after an apprenticeship at Bloomington South under the guidance of Susanne Shelton, Northrup really belongs on the alumnae side of the line. Just recently, she received a stunning recognition from the Indiana Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, an Outstanding Future Educator Award — only five out of 800 student teachers at IU received this award. Having spent her spring semester as instructor at Knox College, Northrup will begin her secondary-school career at the Webb School in Bell Buckle, Tenn., where she will be teaching all levels of Latin and living on campus with resident students, a prospect that she finds exciting. Will they be holding their table conversations in Latin? If anyone can rouse them to it, Northrup can.

Alumni make their mark

Keeping track of our graduate alumni is not difficult because their energetic professional activity makes so many of them visible. From journals to study tours to small-town newspapers, one never knows when familiar names or faces will turn up.

Turning up within the area of academic publication, Teresa Ramsby, MA’95, PhD’01, a member of the classics faculty of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, has added her new book, Textual Permanence: Roman Elegists and the Epigraphic Tradition (Duckworth, London 2007), to our increasing bibliography. As the title might indicate, Ramsby investigates what happens when Rome’s characteristically “epigraphical culture,” a vehicle of public expression and proclamation, enters into the self-styled “private” context of erotic poetry. A new article by Ramsby, “Gender, Sex, and the Domestication of the Empire in Art of the Augustan Age,” co-authored with Beth Severy-Hoven of Macalester College, appears in the winter 2007 issue of the journal Arethusa. This is one of Arethusa’s special issues, which originated in a panel presented at the 2002 meetings of the American Philosophical Association in New Orleans. Another recent publication is an article by Austin Busch, MA’00, PhD’04, “Versane natura est: Natural and Linguistic Instability in the Extispicium and Self-Blinding of Seneca’s Oedipus,” in the February/March 2007 issue of Classical Journal. At the end of the summer, another issue of Arethusa will include an article by Noelle Zeiner, MA’98, PhD’02, “Perfecting the Ideal: Molding Roman Women in Statius’ Silvae.” Zeiner, whose Routledge book Nothing Ordinary Here figured in the previous report, has, so to speak, published also in another category. With her husband and College of Charleston colleague, she is the proud owner of Finnean Williams Carmichael, whose April birthday makes him at the time of writing a little less than a month old.

Active as ever, or perhaps now even more so, Davina McClain, MA’88, PhD’94, has moved to a new position as director of the Louisiana Scholars College at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, La., a role that combines administration, teaching, and recruitment travel. Currently serving as the assistant editor for the APA outreach publication Amphora, McClain will assume the editorship in January 2008. Also undertaking a new position, James Wells, PhD’04, who defended his Pindar dissertation in May 2006, will be teaching for the next two years at Hamilton College.

At the end of July, the Bloomington campus became the setting for the annual meeting of the National Junior Classical (continued on page 6)
Graduate program
(continued from page 5)
League, the organization that has fed the enthusiasm of any number of the secondary-school Latinists who have come to us for further study. Teachers attend with their delegations. An evening reception that Professor Matt Christ staged for teachers only, doubtless a meritorious respite from their chaperonage duties, gave a chance to greet two one-time graduate student colleagues, Jeremy Walker, MA’94, of Crown Point, Ind., who figures yearly in these accounts, but also less often seen Bryan Daleas, MA’93, PhD’98, who came with colleagues and students from the Classical Magnet School of Hartford, Conn., a public institution that offers students in grades 6–12 a traditional college preparatory curriculum founded upon the Western liberal arts philosophy. The inclusion of Latin as a universal curricular requirement makes Daleas one of seven full-time Latin teachers. Neither Walker nor Daleas was too dignified to dress in tunics and other ornaments and march from McNutt to the stadium in the customary costume parade, for which anything goes that is classical, from gods to gladiators.

Closer to home, a Saturday morning at this year’s spring meeting of the Indiana Classical Conference at Wabash College brightly illuminated the effect and influence that some of our secondary teachers are exercising in Indiana venues. Four of 10 morning-session speakers giving insights into their classroom strategies and successes were graduates of our program. Steven Krebs, PhD’00, talked of his work in program building in Kokomo, Ind. Jo Stuckey, BA’67, MAT’68, of Bedford (Ind.) North Lawrence High School displayed the amusing Latin quotation posters she uses to enliven her classroom. Kris Schwickrath, MA’91, who constitutes the Latin Program at Shelbyville (Ind.) High, spoke informatively of the work that she had done cooperatively with Lucie Robie on setting standards for the Indiana State Latin curriculum. Finally, Jeremy Walker, MA’94, of Crown Point, Ind., provided some insight into the spectacularly successful recruitment and retention that has exploded enrollments in four levels of Latin to the point of requiring a second colleague. Recruitment of students is a full-time enterprise that begins with letters to outstanding eighth-grade students and a Parent Information Night. Once students have entered Walker’s program, showcasing for parents continues while active participation in the state’s Junior Classical League adds a structure of social activity to the academic. His students, on their own initiative, produce their JCL newsletter Tempus Canis and very popular classical quiz program, Certamen, while lucky ones enjoy an annual summer circuit in Rome and Campania. In fact, the ICC program gave living proof of the vitality of Walker’s program in the person of his former student, Kyle Long, now a Wabash graduating senior, who presented a synopsis of his senior honors thesis, “Liberal Education in Rome.” But Walker’s fame is far-flung, reaching even the Cape Cod Times. An article clipped from that journal about the spring meeting of the Massachusetts statewide JCL in Barnstable that was recently sent to your correspondent marveled at the energy with which the adolescent conventioneers pursued their Latin and cited one Jeremy Walker of Crown Point, Ind., as an authority on the prosperity of the National Junior Classical League.

Now, as this report marks the end of the spring 2007 semester, preparations are already under way for the reception in August of nine additional members of the program, another class of record-breaking size.

— Eleanor W. Leach, Professor and Director of Graduate Studies

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Alumni news

Eric A. Cox, BA’01, graduate student in classics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, won the Semple Award from the Classical Association of the Middle West and South to go to the American School of Classical Studies in Athens.

Jay Jaffe, BA’79, JD’82, is a partner at the law firm of Baker & Daniels. Jaffe, in Indianapolis, was named a 2007 Indiana Super Lawyer. He concentrates his practice in financial-distress situations, which involves creditors’ rights, loan workout and restructuring, and business reorganization and restructuring.

Steven R. Perkins, BA’91, of Westfield, Ind., recently published two books. His novel A Father’s Footsteps is about a computer account executive who discovers his past while playing golf in Myrtle Beach, S.C. Achilles in Rome: The Latin Iliad of Baebius Italicus is a translation of the first-century Latin rendering of Homer’s Iliad.

Eleanor M. Rust, BA’99, now a doctoral candidate in classics at USC, won the Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullan Pre-Doctoral Rome Prize to work at the American Academy in Rome next year on her dissertation, “ex Angulis Secretisque Librorum: Reading, Writing and Using Miscellaneous Knowledge in the Noctes Atticae.”

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Mrs. Waneta H. Zeumer

IU license plates fund scholarships for 23 students

Indiana University license plates are much more than automobile identifiers or symbols of school pride. They are a source of scholarship funds for IU students. This year, a portion of the revenue generated by the sale of IU license plates has provided $23,000 in scholarships for IU students.

Twenty-three students have been named IU Alumni Association Scholars for 2007–08 and will each receive a $1,000 scholarship. Chosen based on financial need and academic achievement, IUAA Scholars are full-time undergraduate students who are sons and daughters of IU Alumni Association members.

Including this year’s scholarships, the IUAA Scholars program has awarded 199 $1,000 scholarships in 13 years. In its history, the IU Alumni Association has awarded more than $3.4 million in scholarships to IU students.

The IUAA Scholars program is funded entirely by the sale of IU license plates. More than 37,000 IU plates are on Hoosier vehicles, making the IU plate the most popular collegiate license plate in Indiana. With the purchase of each IU license plate, a $25 tax-deductible contribution is made to the IU Alumni Association to fund scholarships and many other programs and services.

The IU Alumni Association is dedicated to serving the university and its diverse alumni, students, and friends. As one of the nation’s largest alumni organizations, serving more than 495,000 graduates worldwide, the IUAA provides many programs and services to its members, non-member alumni, and the university. For information, visit www.alumni.indiana.edu or call (800) 824-3044.
Have tag, will travel

Send us your business card — or just your business information — and we’ll send it back to you laminated and attached to a strap, perfect for your traveling pleasure. (One tag per graduate, please.) Your luggage tag will show that you are proud of your connection to the College of Arts & Sciences at IU and will improve our alumni database.

Mail your card or information to Luggage Tags, College of Arts & Sciences, Kirkwood Hall 208, 130 S. Woodlawn, Bloomington, IN 47405.

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☐ Please send me information about IU Alumni Association membership.

IUAA membership supports and includes membership in the College of Arts & Sciences Alumni Association and your local alumni chapter. You may join online at www.alumni.indiana.edu/directory or call (800) 824-3044.

Please mail to the address above, or fax to (812) 855-8266.