

# eng THE NEWS IN ENGLISH

A newsletter from the Department of English,  
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COLLEGE OF  
**ARTS & SCIENCES**

## Letter from the Chair

Patricia Ingham



Patricia Ingham

It has been a busy year in the Department of English at IU. 2017-2018 brought with it a variety of changes, including a departmental Self-Study and (stellar) External Review (our first in over 15 years). Sadly, last fall we also said goodbye to Ken Gros Louis, former Department Chair, Dean, and Chancellor, and a Bloomington legend. You can read about his extraordinary life and life's work in this issue. Members of the faculty continue to garner honors at all levels: we added yet another Provost Professor to our ranks with the elevation of Professor Karma Lochrie; and for a second year in a row an Assistant Professor of English—this time Professor Rebekah Sheldon—was selected to receive the Outstanding Junior Faculty Award. You should watch for a profile on Professor Sheldon next year and, in the current issue, a feature on last year's recipient, Professor Nikki Skillman. In December we learned that Adrian Matejka, Associate Professor of Poetry was named Poet Laureate of the state of Indiana. He is both an alum of IU and, now, one of our Lilly Professors. We are enormously proud of them, and of all our generous, talented faculty.

It seems fitting, in the wake of all these events, and as we look toward IU's upcoming 2020 Bicentennial celebration, to honor the complex but essential interplay between 'traditions' and 'innovations,' history and the future, the 'old' and the 'new.' Here in English, we see the work we love constantly renewed, year in and year out, every time we welcome a new fiction writer, or celebrate the successes of our junior faculty, or listen to our undergraduate and graduate students work so passionately to refine their scholarship, their writing, speaking, or teaching. We learned, during the course of our review, that our undergraduate students spoke especially eloquently about their love for the English major and minor. Such happiness leads to good things: higher GPA's, greater satisfaction both in College and beyond, a sense of purpose, and some indispensable skills. Our students love English because of the poets, writers, novelists, theorists, or critics we read with them; but also because of the important ways our faculty move and inspire as well as instruct and persuade. Even as we watch for emerging fields and durable new methodologies for our work, this tradition remains at the core of what we do. We remain most grateful for your continued friendship and for all the ways that you support that work. Be well!

## Celebrating Dr. Kenneth R.R. Gros Louis



This year, the Indiana University community lost a beloved leader. Dr. Kenneth R. R. Gros Louis passed away on October 20 at 80 years old. Gros Louis held a number of prestigious administrative titles at the university, including dean of the College of Arts & Sciences and university chancellor. His career began, however, on the fourth floor of Ballantine – and he never forgot his roots as a literary scholar and a man of the humanities.

Ken Gros Louis came to Indiana University in 1964 after receiving his doctorate in Medieval and Renaissance literature from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He quickly earned a reputation as an eminent scholar. With James Ackerman and Thayer Warshaw, he authored the two-volume work *Literary Interpretations of Biblical Narratives*, and in 1970, he was awarded a Distinguished Teaching award – a rare honor for an untenured faculty member.

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# English professor wins Outstanding Junior Faculty award

The department congratulates Nikki Skillman, who was one of five assistant professors named Outstanding Junior Faculty member for the 2016-2017 academic year. The award is granted by the university's Office of the Vice Provost for Research and the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty & Academic Affairs, and "is designed to identify our most promising untenured tenure-track faculty from throughout the campus." It "provides resources to enable these faculty members to further develop their scientific, scholar or artistic activities." Winners of the prestigious award receive \$15,000 to fund further research.

Skillman received the award in part in recognition of her book [The Lyric in the Age of the Brain](#), published in 2016 by Harvard University Press. In the book, based on her doctoral dissertation, Skillman explores what she calls the "battle between the metaphysical and the physical" with which twentieth-century lyric poets were impelled to reckon.

Skillman explains: "As a result of the cognitive revolution, the discourses surrounding the mind sciences have trickled down and infiltrated popular vocabulary for talking about inner life. The book is an investigation of how poets have absorbed – and not absorbed – this vocabulary. Sometimes they're very enthused; sometimes they reject it; often they're somewhere in between. They are fascinated by some of the premises but realize they're more attached to the metaphysical and spiritual pieties that have been baked into lyric poetry."

[The Lyric in the Age of the Brain](#) published to critical acclaim, received Harvard University Press's Thomas J. Wilson Memorial Prize for an outstanding

first book with the press, as well as praise from numerous prominent poetry scholars.

For her next research project, Skillman is examining the phenomenon of epiphany in contemporary lyric poetry. She argues that for recent poets, it is language – not nature, romance, or any sublime sensual experience – that facilitates an encounter with the profound. Skillman seeks to understand, in her words, "how structures of epiphanic experience intersect with injustice and history in both lyric poetry and avant garde poetry."

She is currently writing an article about Claudia Rankine's book [Citizen](#), in which the narrator's overhearing of microaggressive speech throws her into what she deems the "turbulence of ancient dramas." Skillman uses the work to evaluate the controversial premise that "the lyric poem is not a genre, it's a method of reading."

After earning her doctorate from Harvard University in 2012, Skillman joined IU's English faculty in 2013. She cites twentieth-century poetry and poetics, literature and the mind, and theories of genre as her primary research interests. In the English Department, she teaches introductory poetry courses and courses on twentieth-century American and British poetry, as well as more specialized seminars, such as "Lyric and Society in the 1960s" and "Modern Poetry and the Problem of Feeling." In recent months, Skillman has been conducting research while caring for her new son, Henry Noah, born in July of 2017. When not writing articles or singing lullabies, Skillman enjoys ballroom dancing with her husband, gardening, and attending IU's rich cultural events such as the First Thursday



Nikki Skillman, author of *The Lyric in the Age of the Brain*

festivals.

Skillman emphasizes that she is particularly grateful to conduct research and teach at Indiana University, where she enjoys every opportunity to teach the "gifted, earnest students" who attend her poetry classes. "It's exhilarating to train such a range of students and to meet such dedicated English majors who are constantly impressing me in all sorts of ways," she said. She added that she is also continually impressed by her intelligent, thoughtful colleagues in the department, stating, "My colleagues have been so supportive and are incredibly impressive scholars whom I respect immensely."

We look forward to seeing what further accomplishments await Professor Skillman in the future.



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Department of English

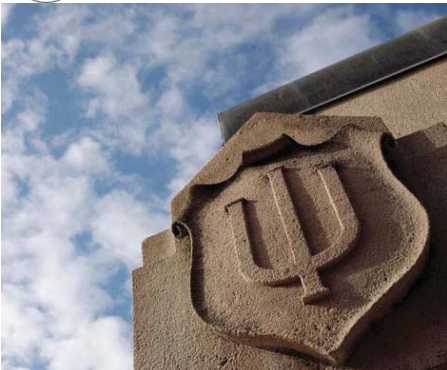
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Field Reporter..... Michelle Maestro

College of Arts & Sciences

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IU Alumni Association

Class Notes..... Bill Elliott



## Graduate student honors, awards, & publications

**Abby Ang** received the Martin Luther King Building Bridges Award, recognizing those organizations and people who capture Dr. King’s vision, spirit, and leadership on the Bloomington Campus of IU.

**Sami Atassi's**, “Playing with the Sovereign's Plague in 'King Pest': A Summoning of Poe's Necromantic Humor" was accepted for publication in *Studies in American Humor*.

**Collin Bjork** received the Lieber Award for Teaching by an Associate Instructor.

**Mary Bowden** was awarded a COAS Dissertation Completion Fellowship and a COAS Grant-in-Aid grant. Her essay "Plotting Plants and Plant Pots: Darwin's Botanical Illustrations" was the winner of the 2016 Patrick Scott Award and is forthcoming at the *Victorian Institute Journal*.

**Julie Chamberlin** was named the Helen Mins Robbins Dissertation Fellow for 2018-2019 when she will be in residence at the University of Rochester.

**Cherae Clark** received the 2017 Earle S Ho Award for Excellence in Teaching Creative Writing.

**Mallory Cohn** was awarded the English Department Dissertation Fellowship in British Literature.

**Emily Corwin's** first full-length collection, *tenderling* is forthcoming from Stalking Horse Press in 2018.

**Emily Esola** was awarded the Susan Gubar Dissertation Fellowship in American Literature.

**Jennifer Warfel Juszkwicz** was awarded the Culbertson Dissertation Fellowship.

**Yalie Kamara** published *When the Living Sing* with Ledge Mule Press and had a successful launch in San Francisco, where the event was written up in *SFGate*.

**Patrick Kindig** was awarded the College Dissertation Year Fellowship.

**Victoria Miluch** won a Fulbright Grant to travel to Krakow to translate a hybrid book of poetry and prose by the Polish writer Marta Zelwan, whose books have yet to be translated into English.

**Andrea Whitacre** was awarded the College Dissertation Year Completion Fellowship.

**Amanda Zoch** was awarded both the President's Diversity Dissertation Fellowship and a COAS Dissertation Year Fellowship. She declined both after receiving an American Association of University Women (AAUW) Dissertation Fellowship.

If you would like to support the English Department in its many endeavors, please visit the Indiana University Foundation Web site and give now. Go to: [iufoundation.iu.edu](http://iufoundation.iu.edu)

# Faculty books, honors, & awards

**Judith Anderson**  
*Light and Death: Figuration in Spenser, Kepler, Donne, Milton*, Fordham University Press

**Rae Greiner**  
Recipient of the 2017 Trustees Teaching Award

**Paul Gutjahr**  
*The Oxford Handbook of The Bible In America*, Oxford University Press

**Patricia Ingham**  
Named the 2018 John Edwards Taylor Fellow in English, American Studies, and Creative Writing at Manchester University, United Kingdom

**Christoph Irmischer**  
*Max Eastman: A Life*, Yale University Press

Ed. *Louis Agassiz, Introduction to the Study of Natural History*, Birkhäuser Basel

**Lara Kriegel**  
Recipient of the 2017 Trustees Teaching Award

**Karma Lochrie**  
Named Provost Professor in 2017

**John Lucaites**  
(with Jon Simons), *In/Visible War - The Culture of War in Twenty-First-Century America*, Rutgers University Press

**Adrian Matejka**  
*Map To the Stars*, Penguin Books

Named by the IAC the Indiana Poet Laureate for 2018-2019

**Rebekah Sheldon**  
Outstanding Junior Faculty Award 2017-2018

Recipient of the 2017 Trustees Teaching Award

**Katherine Silvester**  
(with Andrew Asher), Awarded a Learning Analytics Fellowship by the IU Center of Learning Analytics and Student Success

**Brando Skyhorse**  
(ed. with Lisa Page), *We Wear the Mask - 15 True Stories of Passing in America*, Penguin Random House

**Robert Terrill**  
*Reconsidering Obama: Reflections on Rhetoric*, Peter Lang

**Samrat Upadhyay**  
*Mad Country*, Penguin Random House

*Mad Country*, nominated for the 2018 Aspen Words Literary Prize Longlist



IU Poets Matejka, Bowman, + Gay in conversation with Scott Russell Sanders, Prof. Emerita

For more information about our faculty, please visit: <https://english.indiana.edu/about/faculty/index.html>

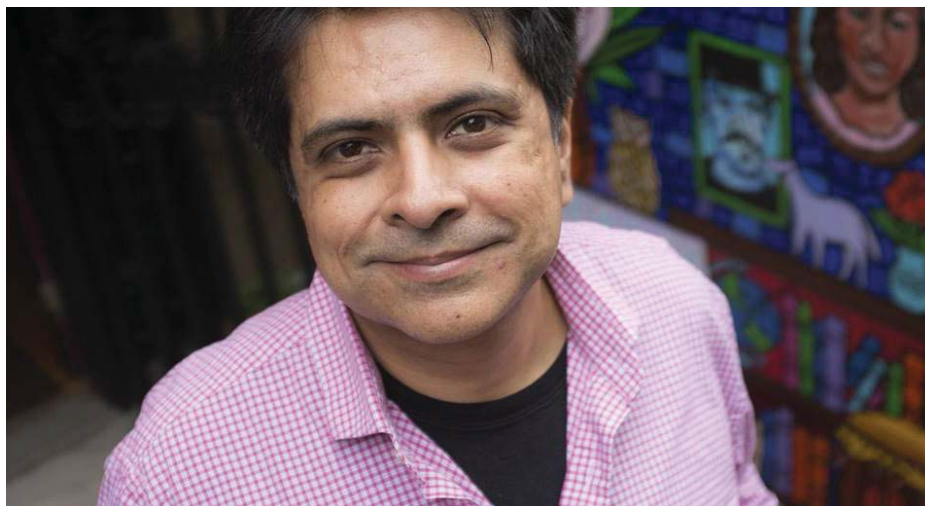
# The Latest Addition

## IU's MFA Program Welcomes a New Professor!

The MFA program welcomes Brando Skyhorse, our newest Professor of Fiction. Born and raised in Southern California, Brando completed much of his education in the golden state, graduating from Stanford University, and later UC Irvine's MFA Writers' Workshop. His novel, *The Madonnas of Echo Park* (Simon & Schuster, 2010), received the 2011 PEN/Hemingway Award, and the Sue Kaufman Prize for First Fiction from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. The book was also a Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers pick.

His recent work, *Take This Man: A Memoir* (Simon & Schuster, 2014), was named by Kirkus Reviews as one of the Best Nonfiction Books of the year. Skyhorse has also co-edited an anthology, *We Wear The Mask: 15 Stories About Passing in America* (Beacon Press, 2017), which was available for purchase in fall 2017. He has received numerous fellowships that include funding from the Ucross Foundation and the Breadloaf Writers' Conference. He was also the 2014-2015 Jenny McKean Moore Writer-In-Washington at George Washington University.

Brando was attracted to Indiana University, Bloomington's MFA program for many reasons. As a writer and editor, Brando understands the advantages of being a student in an MFA program like IU's. "One of the best virtues of the MFA program is that it gives students the gift of time to work on their projects," he says. Writing might seem daunting, especially when starting out as a novice, but students in the program have



Brando Skyhorse, author of memoir *Take This Man*

the benefit of honing their skills, which, of course, takes practice. No one is ever born the perfect wordsmith. "I came to Indiana for the university's MFA program because of its many different kinds of writers ready to take the next step," which he explains means becoming a better writer through community. The MFA program might be small, enrolling fewer than eight new MFA students every year, but the class is diverse and students get to know each other very well.

"There's this notion that writing is solitary work, but here we have a community of people responding to each other... no one is ever alone in the process at IU," Brando insists. "Everyone's needs are different; everyone's goals are different." And Brando would like to help the writers he sees in his classrooms achieve those goals.

In fact, Brando sees himself first and foremost, as a resource for students. Having worked in the publishing industry for several years himself before moving on to crafting his own writing, Brando knows a thing or two about navigating the publishing world and wants to "be that bridge between publishers and writers." "There's this idea that publishing isn't for everyone," he

explains, that publishing might be for only the select few. "My goal is to connect students to people—to the right people they can work with on their projects." It is all about finding the right fit, the right situation for the author or poet, he explains. And honing their skills in the community of MFA students at IU is perhaps the best first step. Graduates of the MFA program in the past have gone on to publish material that began as thesis projects written during their time in the program.

As he looks ahead to the coming year, Brando affirms that he wants to help students in the process of writing, publishing, and sharing their work with the world. Where will he start? "My goal is just to listen. I want to listen to what their work is about and what their goals are." "My door's open, and I'm ready to see students."

# Celebrating Dr. Kenneth R.R. Gros Louis

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Professor Emeritus Donald Gray emphasizes Gros Louis's academic accomplishments: "He was an administrator for so long, it's forgotten that he started out as a really good teacher," Gray said. "He began publishing in very solid scholarly journals quite early and went on to other distinctions."

In 1973, Gros Louis became the chair of the English Department; as chair, he added many women and people of color to the English faculty. One professor Gros Louis hired while he was chair is Distinguished Professor Emerita Susan Gubar, who still vividly remembers the circumstances in which she was hired.

At the time of her interview with Indiana University, Gubar was living in Chicago, and she was expecting a baby. While waiting for her flight to Bloomington to take off, she was reading a handbook containing guidelines for a healthy pregnancy. As the plane doors closed, she read that pregnant women should not fly on aircraft with unpressurized cabins. She tried to get off the plane, but it was too late.

"When I got here, I was terrified about my baby," she said, recalling that she felt distraught for the remainder of her visit. "The faculty was mostly male, so I waited until a party to meet the wives of the faculty and ask what I should do." The women Gubar met suggested that she find a faculty member to drive her to Indianapolis, where she could catch a Greyhound bus back to Chicago. The person who drove her was Donald Gray – to whom she is now married.

Gubar soon received word that she got the job, but she later found out that her offer caused quite a stir in the department. She remembers, "I later heard that a number of older faculty members came into Ken's office and said, 'You can't hire her! Did you see her condition?' Ken replied, 'Oh, we've already made the offer.' He was gleeful when he told that story," Gubar said.

In 1978, Gros Louis was named dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, and in 1980, he was promoted to vice president of the Bloomington campus, a post in which he served for eight years. In 1988, he became vice president of the entire Indiana University system and chancellor of the Bloomington campus. Though he retired in 2001, he was given the honorary title University Chancellor in 2006. During his time as an administrator, Gros Louis had a hand in establishing university programs and services such as the Gay, Lesbian, & Bisexual Student Support Service center, the Wells Scholars program, and the Hutton Honors College.

As a university administrator, Gros Louis was known for his commitment to interacting with undergraduates. Stephen Watt, Provost Professor of English and former associate dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, said of him, "I always admired the way that, as a high-ranking administrator – the head academic officer of IU Bloomington – he always

seemed to have time for students, and they were very close to him. That's a tremendous and important asset for a university administrator to possess." Watt added, "He never forgot his commitment to students. That's why he was such a successful administrator."

Gros Louis was also known for his wry sense of humor. Gubar remembers Gros Louis playing charades with her children, pretending to wear a watch and playfully adjusting the time that each player was given. Donald Gray remembers the joy Gros Louis spread at university functions. The event that is most prominent in his memory is one faculty fellows dinner, in which professors and administrators joined students for dinner in the dormitories. Gray recalled, "At one dinner, they organized an amateur night. Ken entertained us at the amateur night by tap dancing while holding a baton lit on both ends with fire."

Along with his enthusiastic commitment to students, Gros Louis also remained committed to the arts and humanities. Donald Gray noted that, even as chancellor, Gros Louis regularly taught a Shakespeare seminar for Wells Scholars. "He never really stopped using literature," he said. Stephen Watt added, "Ken was extremely well known as a student of poetry; he gave great commencement speeches in which he would weave top-flight poetry into his commentary."

Watt also noted that, in academia today, a high-ranking administrator from the arts and humanities is a rare gift. "It's a great thing to have people in high positions who are that close to the humanities with that kind of connection to literature and ideas," he said. "It translates into public policy, international policy, and other kinds of government actions based in the humanistic tradition. Ken epitomized that."

Gubar agrees that Gros Louis's commitment to the arts and humanities was an integral part of his role as a university leader. "He was an administrator who was willing to stand up for the idea that the arts and humanities [should be] at the center of important learning at an institution like this one," she said. "Liberal arts should be at the core, and they are the crown jewel of Indiana University. Ken was a person people could feel was a steward of the arts and humanities."

*Indiana University is planning a memorial service to remember Kenneth Gros Louis this coming Spring. If you'd like to honor his memory, family members suggest that donations be made to the Kenneth R. R. Gros Louis Scholarship fund at the following link:*  
<https://kengrosloUIS.indiana.edu/scholarship/index.html>

# Rhetoric Matters

The Rhetoric Society of America (RSA) selected Indiana University, Bloomington's gorgeous campus as the site of its seventh biannual Summer Institute, running from May 22 to May 27, 2017. The 2017 Institute was the largest in the Society's history, with close to six hundred people attending eight seminars and twenty-one workshops led by leading scholars in the field. Dr. Robert Terrill, Professor of English and the Director of Writing and Rhetorical Studies describes the Society as "explicitly about bringing together people studying rhetoric across disciplines." Usually, the field is taught across two departments in particular, English and Communications, on most university campuses, which is why "RSA was founded, to address the two traditions and bring them together," Terrill says. In IU's English Department, "we're trying to do the exact same thing."

That "same thing" is actually one of the newer features of the Department. Only a few years since its inception, the English PhD concentration in rhetoric at IU is an exciting new development in the department. Like RSA, IU's English Department brings together people all over the field of rhetoric. One of the first of its kind, the concentration affords English PhD students the opportunity to investigate a range of rhetorical studies. The unique curriculum is as diverse as digital rhetoric, social justice, visual culture, critical-cultural rhetoric, and pedagogical theory, just to name a few. Institutions and universities have to propose their site to the Society, and with IU's innovative new concentration, plus numerous other features, such as the Kinsey Institute and the Lilly Rare Books Library, a world class cinema, art museum, and diverse cultural centers, IU was the perfect fit for RSA.

The endeavor was quite an undertaking, more than two years in the planning. Rhetoric faculty

and graduate students came together to decide what topics they would like to see discussed and who they would want to see appear at the event. The graduate students participated throughout the process, contacting guest speakers, helping devise discussion panels, or reviewing the proposals provided through the submissions.

The weeklong event included eight seminars investigating numerous topics. Graduate students were sponsored to attend the event and allowed to apply, although the selection process for admission was very rigorous. Many of the sessions had received more than twice the applications than they could admit. Featured topics included: the racial contract; the new materialism; rhetoric's affect and the affect of rhetoric; digital rhetoric beyond the screen; the rhetorical spaces of memory; and queer archival immersion—this last workshop was held in the Kinsey Institute. Other workshops, included one on academic publishing, led by the immediate past editor of the Quarterly Journal of Speech and the current editor of Rhetoric Society Quarterly, and a wide array on argumentation, the archive, animal rhetoric, computational rhetoric, decolonizing rhetoric in the 21st century, disability rhetorics, rhetoric and environmental justice, non-western rhetorical traditions, cinema and social movement.

The RSA biannual Summer Institute was generously supported by the Culbertson Fund, the IU College of Arts and Sciences, The College of Arts and Humanities Institute, and the Department. "The English Department has worked really hard to make the rhetoric program viable and a home for new rhetoric graduate students like me," says rhetoric graduate student, Beth Gilmore. Gilmore helped to organize the Institute and knows full well the unique collaboration at work in the program. "It provides us many



**RHETORIC**  
**INDIANA UNIVERSITY**

Our PhD concentration in Rhetoric lets you explore the full and diverse range of rhetorical studies. As faculty who thoroughly integrate communication and composition, we will work with you to build your expertise within your chosen areas of rhetoric's expansive theoretical and practical terrain.

We offer the substantial resources of a top-ranked English department, including outstanding pedagogical training and a wide variety of teaching opportunities. We provide generous financial support, focused mentorship in publication and professionalization, and the comfort of the vibrant, affordable community of Bloomington.

**Rhetoric & Indiana University**  
Explore & build with us.

**Dana Anderson** rhetorical theory, rhetoric and literature, professional writing, composition pedagogy • **John Arthos** hermeneutics, narrative theory, rhetoric and social movements • **Scott Barnett** history and theory of rhetoric, digital rhetorics, rhetorics of science and technology • **Christine Farris** composition studies, feminist rhetoric, rhetorical theory and pedagogy • **Justin Hodgson** digital media and rhetoric, multimedia production, aesthetics, game/play theory • **John Lucaites** rhetoric and social theory, visual rhetorics, rhetoric and judgment • **John Schilb** composition studies, rhetorical theory and criticism, literary theory • **Katherine Silvester** rhetoric and composition, multilingual pedagogy, ethnography • **Robert Terrill** rhetorical criticism, African American public address, classical rhetorical theory • **Freya Thimsen** cultural critique, rhetorical and political theory, feminist and democratic movement theory

great opportunities," she says.

Dr. John Lucaites, Provost Professor of English and a leading scholar in the field, expounds on the importance of these activities now in English. "Rhetoric programs," he says, "help to establish citizenship education, and graduate students [in the program] are helping foster that within the undergraduate community." The recently developed undergraduate minor in Communications and Public Advocacy at IU encompasses many of these skills, for example. "It supplements and complements things students are already learning: writing and speaking skills, along with debate. All of these are used in a civic discourse and help maintain a civic culture," Lucaites explains. "Speaking and writing help establish a civic discourse, and at IU, students are being trained to do this."

# Class Notes

## Before 1960

Former high school teacher and business owner, **Jean Hopewell**, BA'40, of Bloomington, Ind., turned 100 in July. The secret to her longevity may be—in part—a result of her decades-long interest in Indiana women's basketball. Hopewell, who co-owned and ran the Betty Jean Shop on Bloomington's courthouse square for close to 40 years, has watched IU women's basketball for as long as it has been a varsity sport—since 1971. She still lives as independently as possible with a little help from friends and family and enjoys reading, gardening, and exercising. But more than anything, she enjoys going to as many Hoosier women's basketball games as she can, weather permitting. Last season she was a fixture during Indiana's WNIT run. Her friends even bought her an IU women's basketball jersey for her birthday. On the back? Her name and the number 100.

Since retiring ten years ago, **Larry McCoy**, BS'59, MA'65, has published two books. His first is a book on aging, *Did I Really Change My Underwear Every Day?*, and his second, a memoir, *Everyone Needs an Editor (Some of Us More Than Others)*. McCoy is currently working on a book about grandchildren. He lives in Rockville Centre, N.Y.

## 1960s

**Sarah A. Lawson**, BA'65, recently published *The GWTW Fortnight*, a re-appraisal of Margaret Mitchell's classic novel of the South, *Gone with the Wind*. Lawson writes, "I re-read *Gone with the Wind* 50 years after I read it in high school in Indiana. I wondered how it would strike me after all that time, with three degrees in English and years of book reviewing behind me. I make a case for *GWTW* being a much better and more serious novel than is usually thought." A poet and translator, Lawson was born in Indianapolis but has spent most of her adult life in London. Her poetry has appeared in numerous magazines and in the collections *Below the Surface* and *All the Tea in China*.

"After graduating from IU Bloomington," writes **John G. Merrow II**, MA'68, "I went on to a 41-year career, reporting on public education for *PBS*

*NewsHour* and for NPR. I retired nearly two years ago and my new book, *Addicted to Reform: A 12-Step Program to Rescue Public Education*, was published last month by the New Press. On a personal note, I celebrated my 76th birthday by biking my age in miles. With my daughter, Elise, I traveled the 76 miles on June 16, two days after my birthday. I've been doing this since I turned 68." Merrow lives in Edgartown, Mass.

In August, the Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature announced that its 2018 MidAmerica Award for Distinguished Contributions to the Study of Midwestern Literature has been won by **Donald A. Daiker**, PhD'69. A professor emeritus of English at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, Daiker is the author of 10 books, his most recent scholarship focusing on the work of Ernest Hemingway. Daiker has been published in *MidAmerica*, *The Hemingway Review*, *Middle West Review*, and *North Dakota Quarterly*. He lives in Oxford.

## 1970s

In July, the Indiana Continuing Legal Education Forum presented Evansville, Ind., attorney and IU Trustee **Patrick A. Shoulders**, BA'75, JD'78, with its Excellence in Continuing Legal Education Award at the ICLEF board's annual dinner meeting. A partner with Ziemer Stayman Weitzel & Shoulders in Evansville, Shoulders began working with ICLEF in the 1980s and has been a faculty instructor for the organization for more than 30 years. Shoulders lives in Evansville.

**Paul E. Vogelgesang**, BA'77, has published his first novel, *Toxic Gold*, whose main character, Jake Savage, is an Indiana environmental detective. The book is published by *lulu.com*. Vogelgesang is a senior consultant with Strategic Technology and Research Inc., based in Orange County, Calif. He lives in Laguna Hills, Calif.

In summer 2016, **Bryan R. Brown**, BA'78, completed the first ever source-to-mouth descent of Canada's MacKenzie River watershed, roughly 2,300 miles in total. During the challenging trek, which took place above the Arctic Circle, Brown faced blizzards, bears, and lightning strikes. Cataloguing the highlights and dangers of the trip, Brown writes: "Number of point-to-point paddlers I met



Jean Hopewell, BA '40, enjoying her 100th birthday at an IU Women's Basketball game

between the Canadian Rockies and the Beaufort Sea? Zero. Bear incidents? Three (one predatory). Number of times I was mistaken for Bigfoot? One. Number of times I saw Bigfoot? Zero. Number of roasted beaver feet I was offered to eat? Too many. Number I ate? None." The MacKenzie River watershed is the third largest on earth after the Nile and the Amazon, and is the last of the 10 largest watersheds on the planet to be successfully navigated from source to mouth. Brown is a Wall Street market strategist who lives in Beverly Hills, Calif.

**Beth K. "Betsy" Greene**, BA'79, JD'82, a partner at Greene & Schultz Trial Lawyers in Bloomington, Ind., has been named to the IU Maurer School of Law Board of Visitors. Greene has tried more than 100 jury trials in her career and has been a member of the Indiana Trial Lawyers Association since 1989, and a director since 1992. She is a past president of ITLA and the Monroe County Bar Association. She has been inducted into the ITLA College of Fellows and is an emeritus director of the association's board of directors.

## 1980s

**Margaret E. "Liz" Joss**, BA'83, of Indianapolis, is director of strategy and content at Rare Bird Inc., an Indianapolis-based internet marketing, website design, e-commerce, and branding firm.

Self-described "serial volunteer," **William R. "Bill" Bruns III**, BA'88, earned Southern Illinois University's 2017 Lindell W. Sturgis Memorial Public Service Award in June. Bruns, of Makanda, Ill., is deputy director of the SIU Student Center. He has been employed at SIU since 2002, originally

# Class Notes (continued)

serving as instructor and coordinator for media and technology in the College of Education and Human Services. He was the Student Center's webmaster and technology director from 2006 to 2009 before moving into his current role in 2009.

**Ann Sinkhorn Ryan**, BA'84, of Evansville, Ind., was promoted to chief client experience officer for Old National Bank in Evansville, after having previously served as chief marketing officer. Ryan has been with Old National, the largest Indiana-based bank, for 16 years. She is married to Paul G. Ryan, BS'83, controller for Hannig Construction in Terre Haute, Ind. Their daughter, **Anne-Therese G. Ryan**, BA'17, is the newest IU graduate in the family. She is a Teach for America corps member, teaching seventh grade math in Tulsa, Okla.

**Mark A. Canada**, BA'89, is co-author of *Introduction to Information Literacy for Students*, published in April by Wiley. Canada is vice chancellor for academic affairs and professor of English at IU Kokomo. A 2008 recipient of the University of North Carolina Board of Governors' Award for Excellence in Teaching, Canada is also the author and editor of several books on literature and journalism. He lives in Kokomo.

## 1990s

"My novel *Iced*, a comic murder-mystery about a writing teacher who steals a dead student's story, was published December

2017 by Livingston Press," writes **Robert Grindy**, MFA'86. He adds, "I am an English professor at Richland Community College in Decatur, Ill., married to **Rosemarie J. King**, MA'91.

Poet and translator **Jennifer L. Grotz**, MA/MFA'96, recently received a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship for 2017. She is the author of two books of poems, most recently *The Needle*, and a book of translations of Patrice de La Tour du Pin's *The Psalms of All My Days*. Grotz teaches at the University of Rochester, N.Y., and serves as assistant director of the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference. She lives in Rochester.

The city of Fort Wayne, Ind., has promoted **Kelly J. Lundberg**, BA'96, MPM'06, to deputy director for community development of the Office of Housing and Neighborhood Services. Lundberg has worked for the city since 2004. She holds a bachelor's degree in English from IU and a master of public management degree from the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at IPFW.

Freelance magazine writer **Kristen Desmond LeFevre**, BAJ'97, was recognized with a 2017 Clarion Award for Feature Writing by the Association for Women in Communications for a feature story on women's concussions. Her profile of pioneering civil engineer Nora Stanton Blatch Barney was also honored with second place in the profile category at the Florida Society of Professional Journalists Pro



Marcus F. Wicker, MFA '10, author of *Maybe the Saddest Thing*, and *Silencer*

Chapter's 2017 Sunshine State Awards. LeFevre has been named associate editor of *The Key*, the official magazine of the collegiate sorority Kappa Kappa Gamma. In addition to her position at *The Key*, LeFevre continues to work as a freelance writer and editor, frequently contributing to magazines such as *Gold Coast*, *Boca Life*, *Jupiter Magazine*, *The Palm Beacher*, and *Palm Beach Illustrated*. For more information about LeFevre, visit [kristendesmondlefevre.contently.com](http://kristendesmondlefevre.contently.com). LeFevre lives in North Palm Beach, Fla.

## 2000s

**Simeon A. Berry**, MFA'02, is the author of *Monograph*, published in 2015 by the University of Georgia Press. The book was selected as a 2014 National Poetry Series competition winner. Berry has been an associate editor for *Ploughshares* and won a Massachusetts Cultural Council Individual Artist Grant and a Career Chapter Award from the National Society of Arts and Letters. His first book, *Ampersand Revisited*, was selected for the 2013 National Poetry Series. He lives in Somerville, Massachusetts.

In the fall 2017 issue of *The College Magazine*, **Marcus F. Wicker**, MFA'10, was named a member of IU Bloomington College of Arts and Sciences inaugural 20 Under 40 class. He is the recipient of a Ruth Lilly Fellowship from the Poetry Foundation, a Pushcart Prize, The Missouri Review's Miller Audio Prize, and fellowships from Cave Canem and the Fine Arts Work Center. His first collection of poetry, *Maybe the Saddest Thing* (HarperPerennial), a National Poetry Series winner, was a finalist for an NAACP Image Award. His second book, *Silencer*, was published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt in September. Wicker's poems have appeared in *The Nation*, *Poetry*, *American Poetry Review*, and *Oxford American*. He teaches at the University of Memphis and is poetry editor of *Southern Indiana Review*.