

# Future Faculty *Update*

Indiana University Office of Strategic Hiring and Support Newsletter Summer/Fall 2003

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## Summer/Fall 2003 Fellows

The seventeenth year of the IUB Faculty Fellows Program (FFP) welcomed six first time fellows. The program hosted scholars in the fields of biology, history, education, folklore, and musicology.

During the first summer session, ethnobotanist Carlos Ramírez-Sosa served as an instructor in the Department of Biology. Ramírez-Sosa, whose research interests have focused primarily on medicinal plants, taught “Plants and Society: an Ethnobotanical Perspective.”

IUB alumnus, Anne Choi of the Department of History, returned to the Bloomington campus for the first time since receiving her B.A. Choi taught “Immigrants in Modern America” during the first summer session. Choi is currently serving as a Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Department of History at Swarthmore College. Upon conclusion of her fellowship, Choi will be joining the faculty of the American Studies Program at the University of Kansas.

The School of Education hosted Kimberly Frazier both summer sessions and Robin Hughes the second summer session. With an educational background in both psychology and counseling, Frazier developed master’s and doctoral students’ counseling skills through the three courses/practicums she led. Frazier is currently involved in research at IUB.

Robin Hughes taught “African Americans in Higher Education,” during the second summer session. Possessing a broad educational and experiential background, Hughes’ course examined pertinent issues in education for African Americans at all types of institutions. Hughes departed Bloomington at the conclusion of the summer to return to her position as an assistant professor at the University of Texas at El Paso.

The Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology brought folklorist Laura Muñoz to IUB. Muñoz learned of the FFP from former fellow and IUB faculty member, Cándida Jáquez of the Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology. During her stay at IUB, Muñoz was able to advance the research for her dissertation, “Mexican Schools, Mexican American Teachers in Jim Crow Arizona,” through the numerous libraries and resources available at IUB. Muñoz has returned to Arizona State University to complete her dissertation.

The School of Music is hosting musicologist Ayana Smith for the academic year 2003-04. While Smith’s research has focused mainly on the relationship between music and literature, namely opera in Italy during the eighteenth century, she is currently pursuing research on more contemporary styles of music, such as the blues. In the spring of 2004, Smith will instruct the first course offered by the School of Music on the role of women in music.

More information about each fellow and updates on past fellows are available inside. For more information about how to apply for the FFP, please turn to page 7.



FFP fellows Laura Muñoz, Ayana Smith, FFP Coordinator Rebecca Jones, and guests at Victory Field in Indianapolis.

# Ethnobotanist Examines Relationship between Humans and Plants

## Carlos Ramírez-Sosa

Carlos Ramírez-Sosa broke new ground at IUB this summer. Ramírez-Sosa taught “Plants and Society: an Ethnobotanical Perspective.” Focusing on the interaction between humans and plants, Ramírez-Sosa was able to incorporate his own botanical research and anthropological materials into the curriculum. Striking a delicate balance between biology and social science, Ramírez-Sosa delivered a multidisciplinary course that for many of his students was their first science course at IUB.

Born near San Salvador, El Salvador, Ramírez-Sosa and his family moved to New York City in 1980. Having received his doctorate in biology at the City University of New York (CUNY) in 2001, Ramírez-Sosa has taught general biology, the natural world, ecology, ethnobotany, plant systematics, ethnobiology, and tropical ecology at St. Lawrence University in New York.

“The ultimate goal is to show the communities that where you preserve natural resources, knowledge is also preserved.”

-Carlos Ramírez-Sosa

While at St. Lawrence, Ramírez-Sosa has developed a research

collaboration on medicinal plants with the Mohawk Indian Nation and St. Lawrence— the first scientific collaboration in the 100 year relationship between the Mohawk Indian Nation and St. Lawrence. Ramírez-Sosa explains, “We are trying to catalog the medicinal plants that they [Mohawk Indian Nation] have and use in their local language and how the names and uses of the plants are maintained from generation to generation.”

Not only interdisciplinary in his research, Ramírez-Sosa also does interregional work in Latin America. Ramírez-Sosa’s dissertation, “Vegetation of a Subtropical Pre-Montane Moist Forest in Central America,” resulted in the first ecological inventory of a portion of El Imposible National Park in El Salvador and the intergenerational transfer of knowledge about the ecology of the area.

Research in Latin America has not only provided Ramírez-Sosa with the opportunity to advance his research, but provided a platform for him to educate the local populations on ecological concerns. “The ultimate goal is to show the communities that where you preserve natural resources, knowledge is also preserved.”

Currently, Ramírez-Sosa’s “number one research interest is the relationship between humans and forests in tropical areas, specifically in Mesoamerica from a botanical perspective.”

When not pursuing academic endeavors, Ramírez-Sosa enjoys bird watching, namely migratory birds. His interest in bird watching began while he was pursuing his master’s degree at Michigan State University where he became a member of the Audubon society.



Carlos Ramírez-Sosa

“When conducting tropical research, you also see the northern birds there and changes in their plumage as well.”

Ramírez-Sosa’s time in Bloomington has been both professionally and personally rewarding. “Teaching at IUB has been a positive experience and has given me the opportunity to meet many non-science students. Bloomington is a fascinating town. Small, yet one finds everything available in a big city: good food, good ice cream, and good bagels. Walking through the campus woods everyday has given me the inspiration to teach about plants. The FFP provides an opportunity unlike any program I know.”

# Psychologist Develops Model to Prevent Child Abuse

## Kimberly Frazier

Kimberly Frazier was one of the most active members of the IUB community this summer. The native of New Orleans, Louisiana, taught two classes in the School of Education during the first summer session and another during the second summer session, in addition to advancing her own research.

With an academic background in both psychology and counselor education, Frazier specializes in multicultural counseling, counseling children, play therapy, and crisis intervention.

During the first summer session, Frazier instructed “Doctoral Supervision” and “Practicum in Counseling.” Frazier explains, “The practicum course consisted of master students at a counseling site seeing actual clients and determining where they were in regard to their counseling skills. The supervision course required the doctoral students to supervise the master students participating in the ‘Practicum in Counseling.’”

The second summer session Frazier led another graduate course, “Theories of Counseling.” She described the course as encompassing, “the basic theories of counseling and psychotherapy.” In order to more fully engage the students with the material, Frazier updated the curriculum and material discussed in class. “I am trying to

incorporate current people who are actually using the theories that are well known in the field. By using their articles and videos, students can see the theories at work instead of just in a book.”

Frazier’s doctoral dissertation and forthcoming manuscript, “The Relationship Among Characteristics of Sexual Assault Survivors Under Five Years of Age: Implications for Counselors in Training,” examines the characteristics related to sexual assault of young children; the study is an attempt to create a clinical profile of attributes that can assist in identifying children at risk of sexual assault.



Kimberly Frazier

“Most of the research of at risk children had focused on teenagers and pre-teens and the basic factors that put them at risk of sexual assault. Prior research didn’t demonstrate what combination of factors put younger children most at risk, especially those under the age of five. The purpose of the research was to

create a preventative model so we as counselors can identify the characteristics of at risk children.” In the future, Frazier would like to further advance her doctoral research on a larger scale and to more closely examine these factors.

On a personal note, Frazier is a supporter of college basketball. “I’m strictly a college basketball fan and a fan of Hoosier basketball.”

Describing her impression of Bloomington and the FFP, “Everyone in Bloomington is really nice. The community is close knit which is different from being in a big city. The FFP has been excellent. I have been embraced by my department and the FFP in general. Learning how to be a faculty member has been an excellent opportunity because coming straight from graduate school you do not have the frame of reference.”

“The purpose of the research was to create a preventative model so we as counselors can identify the characteristics of at risk children.”

-Kimberly Frazier

In the future Frazier would like to be involved jointly in academia as a professor and the private sector as a counselor. “My mentor in New Orleans did both and I think I would like to do the same.”



# Scholar Focuses on Issues Facing African Americans in higher education

## Robin Hughes

The IUB Faculty Fellowship Program brought Robin Hughes to the state of Indiana for the first time. Born in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and raised in Ft. Worth, Texas, Hughes has served as an assistant professor and the Chair of the Higher Education Program Planning at the University of Texas at El Paso the past two years. Hughes was made aware of the Future Faculty Program by past fellow, Chris Brown (FFP summer 1998) while attending a conference sponsored by the Association for the Study of Higher Education.

Hughes earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in chemistry from the University of North Texas before receiving her Master of Science and Ph.D. in education administration from Texas A&M University. While at Texas A&M, Hughes was mentored by IUB alum and internationally renowned scholar, Yvonna Lincoln. Hughes adds, “She has one of the walls in her office painted bright red, now I know why.”

Hughes taught “African Americans in Higher Education” during summer session II at IUB. Hughes described the course in this manner, “What we look at are the critical issues that African American students, faculty, and administrators face in higher education. We look at both Private White Institutions (PWIs) and Historic Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and I talk a

little bit about Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) because that is where I came from. We also look at how universities and institutions of higher education are responding to the needs of those folks.” The course also included topics on African American identity and campus culture, which also allowed Hughes to incorporate some of her own research on the African American athlete on campus, from both the perspective of the athlete and peer groups.

Hughes is currently researching a variety of topics in higher education. Hughes explains, “Right now I am examining African American students and their experiences in PWIs and HBCUs. I did a visual ethnography and also interviewed African American students. Inevitably, African American students talked about being a regular black student and being a non-regular student or athlete. Athletes got a different privilege.”

“What we look at are the critical issues that African American students, faculty, and administrators face in higher education.”

-Robin Hughes

The daughter of the all-time winningest high school basketball coach in the nation, Robert L. Hughes of Dunbar High School in Ft. Worth, Texas, Hughes continues to



Robin Hughes

have a passion for high school basketball. “I really love high school basketball. It is great to watch those kids transition from high school and the personality changes.”

As the mother of three, Hughes’ free time is often filled with the hobbies of her children. When not fulfilling her academic and familial duties, Hughes enjoys reading, gardening, and writing op-ed pieces.

Hughes has found the most attractive component of the FFP was the mentoring that accompanied her participation in the program. “Mentoring has taken on many roles during my stay here at IUB. I have been privy to direct feedback on classroom instruction from my mentors in the School of Education. Typically, I would get this same service from an office on campus that addresses college classroom instruction. However, these services tend to fall short because many are not well-versed in the extant literature.”

# Folklorist Advances Research on Mexican American Education During the Jim Crow Era

## Laura Muñoz

American history doctoral candidate Laura Muñoz introduced a new perspective of Mexican American culture to the Bloomington campus. As a visiting lecturer in the Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology, Muñoz exposed many IUB students to Chicana/o traditions, practices, and beliefs for the first time.



Laura Muñoz

Muñoz instructed “Chicana and Chicano Folklore” during the second summer session of the academic year 2002-03. The course surveyed the broad cultural experiences of Mexican Americans in the United States since 1848. “Each week I introduce the students to two or three different kinds of folklore. Critical to that is looking at the work of Mexican American folklorists, their approach to the field, and how they have changed the notion of how you study folklore,” Muñoz explained. “I also include the work of Chicana scholars who are looking at gender traditions among Mexican

Americans. This gives me the opportunity to introduce folklore in two different ways, in a traditional and feminist manner.”

Born in Brownsville, Texas, and raised in Corpus Christi, Texas, Muñoz has focused her research on the history and experience of Mexican American teachers in the Southwest. Her forthcoming dissertation, “Mexican Schools, Mexican American Teachers in Jim Crow Arizona” presents a multidimensional story that is simultaneously a history of education in Jim Crow Arizona, as well as a history of Mexican American women’s pursuits as educators.

Muñoz explains, “The point that has struck me the most in the research is how actively involved Mexican American parents were in the educational system considering the limitations of the language and finances. Parents secured equal education for their children. In places where they [parents] were unable to secure equal education, they filed lawsuits and were active in mobilizing support in the Mexican community to ensure their children received a basic education.”

Muñoz first learned of the FFP from current IUB Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology faculty member Cándida Jáquez (FFP summer 1997 and summer 1998). “Cándida was an assistant professor at Arizona State University where I am doing my doctoral studies. Through the

course of her mentoring, she made me aware of the FFP.”

Muñoz described her experience in the FFP. “The program has been incredibly straight forward and very direct. I have been really impressed with the willingness of people to help me.”

“The point that has struck me the most in the research is how actively involved Mexican American parents were in the educational system considering the limitations of the language and finances.”

-Laura Muñoz

Her first time in Indiana, Muñoz described Bloomington as “a college town with a lot of cultural diversity. I feel I have had a dual introduction to Bloomington. As I have gotten to know the students and faculty of IUB, I have also had the opportunity to get to know the Latino community of Bloomington. That has made a really big difference for me because I felt like there were two places for me to be here. There was more than just being a part of the university community.”

In her free time Muñoz enjoys watching baseball, namely the San Francisco Giants. Her favorite players are Barry Bonds and Benito Santiago. Muñoz also enjoys hip-hop music and style.

# Musicologist Explores the Connection between Literature and Music in Different Eras and Genres

## Ayana Smith

Musicologist, Ayana Smith, joined the IUB community this fall as a visiting professor in the prestigious School of Music for the academic year 2003-04. Smith's stay at IUB has allowed her to pursue unique areas of scholarship, while also serving as an instructor.

Born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and raised in Princeton, New Jersey, Smith grew up in a fertile musical environment. She explains, "It was a great place for music. There were a lot of musical events at the university [Princeton], and I had access to instruction in voice, piano, cello and organ, and many opportunities to perform." This setting exposed Smith to many areas of music and promoted her interest in performance and musicology.

Smith's scholarship has primarily focused on opera, but she is currently pursuing research in other genres of music. "At the moment I am working on an article on the blues that focuses on the role of narrative in music. The article will explore the Chicago Blues style, Muddy Waters, Robert Johnson, and some female artists." Smith describes the transition from studying opera to blues, "It has been interesting. I have learned a lot working on this project. Although it is a new area for me, there is a relationship between literary criticism and musical analysis in the blues that is similar to my interest in opera."



Ayana Smith

This connection between literature and music was explored in Smith's dissertation, "Opera in Arcadia: Rome, Florence, and Venice in the Primo Settecento." Her research investigated the influence of Arcadian literature on eighteenth century Italian opera. Smith states, "It focuses on the composers Alessandro Scarlatti, Antonio Caldara, and George Frideric Handel, their operas in Rome, Florence, and Venice, and the

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-Ayana Smith

extent to which their works were affected by the reform trends in Italian drama."

In the fall Smith instructed the graduate course, "Early Music History Review," which examined music from the periods of ancient Rome and Greece until 1750, and "Opera History and Criticism" for undergraduates. Commenting on her undergraduate course, Smith explains, "I am focusing on critical approaches to opera, in addition to providing historical background for the development of opera and introducing the students to source materials on historical opera aesthetics."

Smith's enjoyment of music is not relegated to her life in academia. Smith has performed professionally as a soprano and would like to begin singing again in the near future. When not engaging in music-related activities, Smith plays tennis and needlepoints.

Describing Bloomington and IUB, Smith adds, "I have only been here a short time but I have really been enjoying the town and the cultural events. "My husband and I had a great time at the Fourth Street Arts Festival and at the first opera production in the School of Music. My colleagues here have been really welcoming, supportive, and helpful."

The spring semester will be another busy one for Smith. "I am going to be teaching 'Women in Music,'" a course that has never been offered before at IUB. "I will also be starting an article on Don Quixote as a Spanish figure in Italian opera in the eighteenth century."



# IUB Alum Investigates Asian American Identity in Pre-World War II America

## Anne Choi

The summer of 2003 marked the return of IUB alumnus Anne Choi to the Bloomington campus.

A recipient of a B.A. from IUB in American history and East Asian studies, this was Choi's first time on the IUB campus since she graduated. Choi explains, "It is a little strange. I am teaching in a room that I actually took courses in as an undergraduate. Being on the other side is a little odd."

Choi has discovered her arrival in Bloomington has been to a markedly different campus than that of her undergraduate studies. "I had the sense I knew what the campus was like, but I would take walks on the paths I knew so well and encounter new buildings."

Born in Bloomington and raised in Greenfield, Indiana, Choi earned her M.A. in American history at the University of Massachusetts in 1997 and her Ph.D. in history at the University of Southern California in 2003. The focus of Choi's scholarship has been Asian American history, ethnic history, U.S. political history, and Korean history.

Currently, Choi is revising her dissertation, "Border Crossings: The Politics of Korean Nationalism in the United States, 1919-1945," for a book manuscript. In her dissertation, Choi examined how "Korean immigrants in the United States in the decades preceding World War II fashioned a transnational ethnic identity." Choi asserts her research interests "will continue to investigate transnational cultural and political transformation, the global migration of political ideology, Asian American history, and comparative U.S. history."

In addition to her own academic pursuits during the summer, Choi also taught "Immigrants in Modern America." Through the use of a wide array of materials, including many on popular culture— films, advertisements, and print materials— Choi primarily focused the course on

"[My] research interests will continue to investigate transnational cultural and political transformation, the global migration of political ideology, Asian American history, and comparative U.S. history."

-Anne Choi

"how race and class have shaped immigrant identity in the United States."

Choi is also an amateur filmmaker who is currently working on a documentary on Asian American popular culture.

Commenting on the FFP, "It is a great way to get very recently finished graduate students to think about what kind of institutions they would like to be at."

**Apply for a fellowship today!**  
**We consider candidates year-round.**

Call or write Rebecca Jones, Program Coordinator  
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[www.iub.edu/~mffp](http://www.iub.edu/~mffp)

# Past FFP Fellows.....

## Larry Valero

Larry Valero, FFP 2000 in the Department of History, taught an undergraduate course on contemporary U.S. foreign policy during his stay at IUB. After his brief time in Bloomington, he was a Graduate Student Summer Associate with the RAND Corporation in Santa Monica, California. There Valero worked on a Project Air Force study examining the strategic aspects of space, while simultaneously putting the final touches on his dissertation.

After finishing his doctorate at Cambridge, Valero secured a tenure-track lecturer position (assistant professor) in intelligence and international history at the University of Salford in Manchester, England. In his current job, Valero teaches military, diplomatic, and intelligence history at the undergraduate level; he also teaches the graduate core modules in Salford's relatively unique MA/Pg Dip in International History and Intelligence Program, which he administers as course tutor.

Valero describes his experience in the FFP. "The Faculty Fellowship Program was of great help to me professionally. As a graduate student from a British university, my teaching experience had been limited to Cambridge tutorials. The Faculty Fellowship Program provided me with an excellent opportunity to have my own lecture and classroom at a leading public research university—an invaluable learning experience. The Faculty Fellowship Program was simply instrumental in assisting my transition from a doctoral candidate to a full-fledged faculty member."

On a personal note, Valero and his wife Sydney recently had their second child, Abraham who was born in Manchester last March. Both Abraham and his big sister Hannah (now 3 years old) keep them very busy. The Valeros presently call Knutsford, a pleasant town just outside of Manchester, their home.

## Davarian Baldwin

Davarian Baldwin, FFP 2000 in the Department of History, is an assistant professor of history and American studies at Boston College. He has been the recipient of the Carter G. Woodson Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the University of Virginia (2003-2004), the W.E.B. DuBois Research Fellowship at Harvard University (2001-2002) and the Erskine Peters Dissertation Fellowship at Notre Dame University (2000-2001). Davarian has published in the *Journal of American Studies*, the *Journal of Urban History*, *Journal of Social History*, *Critical Sociology*, and *Black Renaissance/Renaissance Noire*. He also has essays in the collections: *African Americans in Cinema: The First Half-Century*; *The Modern Girl Around the World: Globalization, Modernity, and Consumption*; and encyclopedias covering the Great Black Migration and urban history, respectively.

Baldwin is currently finishing a manuscript that examines Chicago's "New Negro" Renaissance through the lens of beauty, independent film, gospel music, and athletic cultures within the black consumer marketplace of the interwar period. He is also on the editorial board for the *Journal of Urban History* and the Board of Trustees for the Davis-Putter Scholarship Fund, which provides scholarships for scholar-activists.

Describing his experience in the FFP, "The fellowship year at IUB was instrumental in my professional development because of the resources of the campus, the assistance of scholar mentors, and the collegiality of peers brought together through the fellowship. Despite conservative narratives that announce a 'tyranny of identity politics,' there are clear lines of marginalization for scholars of color at all levels within the academic industry. The FFP is both necessary and courageous in its clear goals of diversity and retention, especially in this heightened climate of backlash and retrenchment."



# .....Where are they now?

## Jeanett Castellanos

Jeanett Castellanos, FFP 1998 in the School of Education, holds a Ph.D. in education and a master's degree in counseling psychology from Washington State University. She completed a summer post-doctoral fellowship at IUB in 1998 and has worked at Long Beach State University and the University of Wisconsin-Madison as a visiting faculty member. Currently, she is the Director of the Academic Resource Center and is teaching numerous classes for the School of Social Sciences at the University of California-Irvine.

Castellanos' research focuses on the college experience of underrepresented students, campus climate, and the psychological factors that affect retention. In particular, her research interests include the psychosocialcultural factors that affect the retention of racial ethnic minorities' experiences at predominantly white institutions (PWIs), means to improve the current conditions for student persistence and satisfaction, and cultural competence in higher education.



Jeanett Castellanos

Recent article publications by Castellanos and colleagues include works in the Journal of Hispanic Higher Education, Psychological Reports, and Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology. Her most recent publication includes an edited volume published by Stylus, "The Majority in the Minority: Expanding the Representation of Latina/o Faculty, Administrators, and Students in Higher Education. The compilation of chapters, contributed by twenty-two scholars, highlights the current condition of Latina/os in higher education and provides recommendations to improve their higher education experiences.

Invited by PBS to conduct an interview on Latino values and scheduled to promote the book in the fall, Castellanos has set a professional and personal agenda to heighten student affair professionals' knowledge and understanding of the ethnic racial minority student experiences in higher education. She reports that her strategy in reaching such a goal is generated ultimately by writing, but is also complemented by professional consultations, formal workshops, and keynotes.

When asked about her training, Jeanett candidly recognizes the value of mentorship, opportunity, and educational programs that promote scholarship and research skills for survival in higher education. More specifically, "The FFP helped me develop professionally and personally. The program provided an excellent training ground to help me further refine my research agenda and teaching skills. In particular, the opportunity to meet top scholars, hear about their work, learn their conceptualization process, and even refine my statistical skills were all elements of my professional development during the program. Going to IUB was invaluable and any junior scholar seriously considering academia should take part in this quality opportunity for educational, professional, and personal enhancement."

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