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#### on the cover

Purdue University's College of Liberal Arts is on track for achieving an unprecedented level of distinction. The Strategic Plans for both the University and the College have made preeminence our stated goal. Each plan features detailed strategies for building on current strengths, adding expertise, and communicating and celebrating successes. Pictured on our cover are Li Zhang, Michael Flynn, Charles Stewart, Laurel Weldon, and Antonio Tillis — just some of the many faculty members striving for preeminence in their fields.





MAGAZINE

Spring 2005







#### **PREEMINENCE**

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### from the DEAN

#### Dear Friends,

PURDUF'S GOAL is to reach academic preeminence. Here in the College of Liberal Arts, we share that goal. But what do we mean by preeminence? You may have heard that English at one university is excellent, and that psychology is strong at another. In reality, however, rarely are departments or programs equally strong in every subfield. It is more likely that departments or programs become strong in a few specialties, and that these strengths generalize to reflect on the whole unit. The strongest departments and programs have a larger number of strong subfields and/or a larger number of

exceptional faculty members whose accomplishments are consistent with preeminence.



HERE IN LIBERAL ARTS, we are already preeminent in a number of subfields. On the following pages our stories provide evidence as to why we think these areas reflect some of the best we have to offer. Stories on speech and language processes, modern fiction studies, linguistics, sound design in theatre, and visual communication represent just a handful of the subfields in which we already claim preeminence.

But we are looking toward building even stronger preeminence in the future. We are hiring the best and the brightest faculty members and providing them with resources to reach their full potential as scholars and as teachers. We are attracting a strong number of well-qualified undergraduates and offering enhanced learning experiences to the very best of them. Our graduate student recruitment efforts are also being intensified. Finally, we are vigorously pursuing development opportunities to assure that we will have the resources we need to attract and retain the best faculty and students. They are the keys to building on the excellence we have and promoting even greater preeminence in the future.

**ANOTHER SIGN OF FORWARD PROGRESS** is the change of our name to College of Liberal Arts. The term "College" best reflects the intellectual diversity of our programs, and the depth with which we pursue the many areas of intellectual inquiry that our faculty and curricula represent. Liberal Arts faculty, staff, current students, and alumni have endorsed this change as one that is consistent both with our accomplishments and our drive toward preeminence.

I HOPE YOU ENJOY READING about some of the topnotch research and activities taking place throughout the College of Liberal Arts at Purdue University. Your continued support of and interest in the College will help us achieve even higher levels of excellence. Thank you.

Toby L. Parcel Dean

Johy L. Parcel

Here in Liberal Arts, we are already preeminent in a number of subfields.

#### in the College of Liberal Arts

cholarship is central to any university's efforts. Faculty members pursue research agendas that further our knowledge in all areas of endeavor. They also share that passion for knowledge with their students.

The scholars in Purdue University's College of Liberal Arts exemplify that spirit of distinction. The College is made up of individuals at widely varying stages in their professional development, from first-year students to full professors. Each has a path before him or her, built on goals and mile markers of success.

Collectively, these individuals are also striving together for excellence. As a band of fellow travelers, the people who make up the College also have a path before them. The articles on the following pages tell a story about the pursuit of excellence within the College. Many of these programs and scholars have already achieved recognition for their distinguished work; yet, without exception, each is reaching for much more. In other areas, new faculty members are adding their energy, skills, and commitment

to a growing effort to raise the standard for research

Scholars and teaching. Preeminent work is happening at Purdue, and Liberal Arts is at the heart of the University's effort to enhance discovery, learning, and engagement. As these stories illustrate, our faculty is constantly striving for more.

BY GRANT E. MABIE

# Distinguished Professors Exemplify

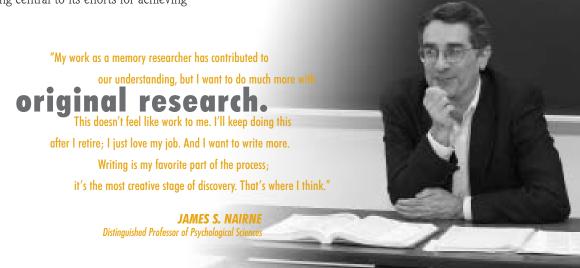
urdue University has an excellent reputation, and scholarship in the College of Liberal Arts contributes to that well-deserved estimation. Faculty members in the College are reaching for even higher levels of excellence. As James S. Nairne, Distinguished Professor of Psychological Sciences, notes, "Liberal Arts faculty members are doing path-breaking, original research."

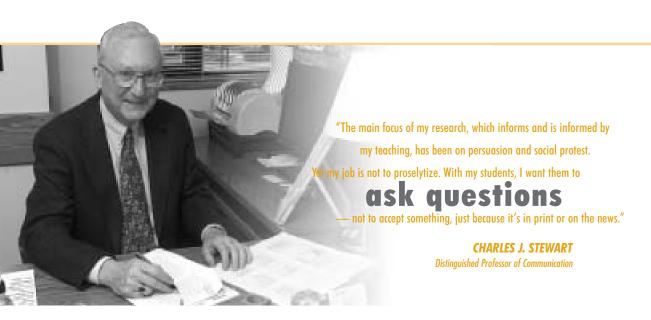
Yet preeminence is not easily attained. It requires hard work, passion, skills, and talents. As William L. McBride, Arthur G. Hansen Distinguished Professor of Philosophy, says, "Preeminence means achieving distinction in your work, getting at least some part of your peers — and, more generally, society — to recognize that work and acknowledge its value." Charles J. Stewart, Distinguished Professor of Communication, agrees. "It's being on the cutting edge of research, knowledge, study, and teaching," he notes. "It means producing scholarship that others in the field anticipate and cite. It also implies a long haul, an established record of high-quality, innovative ideas and work."

Preeminence both at the individual and college levels requires something else: thoughtful planning. The College has made planning central to its efforts for achieving

preeminence. Even before Toby L. Parcel became the Dean, a committee was formed to begin the process of drafting a strategic plan for Liberal Arts at Purdue. Composed of faculty and staff members as well as students, this committee made significant recommendations for growth and progress.

With the committee's recommendations, and after considerable reflection and revision, the Dean and faculty have created "Explaining the Human Condition," a strategic plan for the College focused on building success. As Dean Parcel notes, "This plan is a guide to achieving preeminence." It addresses growth in three broad signature areas central to the College's tripartite mission of discovery, learning, and engagement: arts, values, and culture; behavior, health, and well-being; and institutions and social change. These signature areas illustrate current efforts of the College as well as point to paths for growth and improvement. In keeping with the College's belief in interdisciplinary knowledge, a department, or even an individual faculty member, may pursue research in any or all of these signature areas.





#### Arts, Values, and Culture

One of the most visible aspects of the College of Liberal Arts is the expression of the arts. Throughout history, written works and creative endeavors have reflected human experience and offered perspectives on values. Faculty members in the Patti and Rusty Rueff Department of Visual and Performing Arts as well as those in English create their own contributions; their colleagues develop theories of interpretation. The analysis of our values comes out of our Philosophy faculty. Collectively, they are exploring how people express what it means to be human. As McBride says, "Cultural dialogue is critical to our work, and this certainly includes the arts. Values, above all individual and social ethics, are vital subjects for the College."

Liberal Arts faculty members study the literatures and views expressed in languages other than English and study the role of religious values in shaping our cultures today and in the past. Explorations of self, emotion, values, and behavior are found throughout the College.

#### Behavior, Health, and Well-Being

An increasingly important area of study addresses behavior, health, and well-being. Faculty in Health and Kinesiology, Psychological Sciences, and Sociology and Anthropology are examining personal choices and social structures for their effects on health. Faculty in Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences are studying normal and disordered communication processes from infancy into the senior years. And colleagues in Communication are studying how interactions shape our family, workplace, and other relationships. As Terry Powley, Ben J. Winer Distinguished Professor of Psychological Sciences, notes, "The preeminent university is committed to pushing back ignorance and putting forward new knowledge."

New knowledge abounds at Purdue, and the College is in the vanguard of many lines of research. What causes people to act in ways that they know are detrimental to their health? How does aging change the way people function, and why? What are the best ways to overcome disabilities? Answers to these questions may seem elusive, but pursuing solutions is vital to the well-being of society. As Powley says, "One answer frames another question,

and those questions continue to call. We're exploring a number of them in our lab — aging, diabetes, metabolism, obesity, and so on. There are a score of follow-ups and applications to pursue." Laurence B. Leonard, Rachel E. Stark Distinguished Professor of Speech-Language Pathology, agrees. "The more I study children," he says, "the more I realize how much we don't know. With so much to learn in my research area, there's plenty to keep me going."

continued on next page

"I want to get more philosophers involved in discussions of **key issues.** 

I'm especially interested in enhancing my own knowledge of

non-Western philosophies, to improve the "pluralogue" among different philosophies. Balancing my academic work and association schedule can be demanding, but I like to keep busy."

WILLIAM L. McBRIDE

Arthur G. Hansen Distinguished Professor of Philosophy

### Distinguished Professors Exemplify

continued from page 5

#### **Institutions and Social Change**

The study of institutions and social change is critical to understanding human interaction. Liberal Arts faculty members explore how societies are organized and the cultural forces that shape them. The departments of History, Political Science, and Sociology and Anthropology each provide insight into reasons for change. Economic factors and family relationships are also central to shaping the ways individuals relate in society.

The faculty also studies societies of the past and present, as well as premodern and technologically advanced groups. In many ways, the complexity of modern life has made understanding our institutions more difficult. "As our global society has become more complex," argues Stewart, "problems are harder to resolve through institutions" — in part, he adds, because

"I'm committed to being worthy of the honor of being med a distinguished professor. I really need to demonstrate that I'm worth it. I'm confident of my abilities,

but there are so many other deserving professors.

I'm very fortunate, and I see that as an

#### incentive to do more.

**LAURENCE B. LEONARD** 

Rachel E. Stark Distinguished Professor of Speech-Language Pathology

"institutions avoid or resist change." Yet that difficulty makes the effort more important. Faculty members are exploring the connections with — and feelings of disconnection from — national, state, and local governments, as well as how our religious and social affiliations guide our lives. They are also looking at ways that people in other times and lands address change. As Glenn Parker, Distinguished Professor of Political Science, notes, "In the liberal arts, we try to connect several causes in long linkages. We offer inferences and encourage people to f ormulate their own theories." He adds, "By studying our institutions and the ways they change, people gain a better understanding of how their own lives are structured in and by society."

#### Implementing the Strategic Plan

To realize the vision for the College, the Dean and faculty are already busy implementing the strategic plan, "Explaining the Human Condition." The College will add 30 new faculty positions over a five- to seven-year period. Seventeen of these colleagues are already on campus; faculty are searching for four more colleagues this year, with additional searches to begin in fall 2005 and fall 2006. Departmental and program priorities guide each search. The goal is to build additional strength in each of the three signature areas, promote faculty discovery, and pursue diversity both in faculty and staff demographics as well as in learning and discovery.

"Every major university has strength in the liberal arts," says Parker. "So Purdue is on the right track in building on the excellence in the College. The high standard we are reaching for is essential if we are to make the University great." Leonard agrees. "If my work," he says, "with some good fortune, happens to be viewed as among the top work in the field, that will extend to the College and the University. This is the most sensible way to build preeminence at such a big university. Small pockets — different academic programs — will develop prestige."



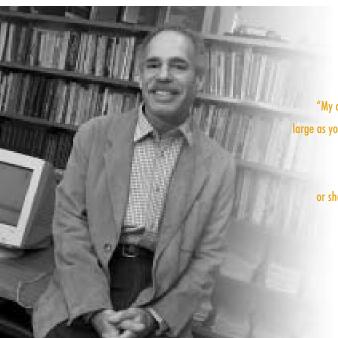
all levels are joining with staff members and students to implement pieces of the plan. Our distinguished faculty members offer recognized strength in their areas of research as well as experience and leadership essential to bringing people together in this effort. As McBride says, "Purdue wants to achieve distinction in a number of fields — even beyond what has already been achieved — and my work has added some prestige. It indicates an important contribution from Purdue in the field, and I feel lucky to be here doing my work." The passion they bring to their research as well as teaching is positioning Purdue as a major force in the liberal arts. "I have sought to make contributions to discovery and learning," notes Nairne. "The two are linked for me. Some of my best ideas have come out of the classroom. Teaching well requires a strong grasp of the material and an ability to communicate it clearly, giving up jargon and really relating material to students' lives."

This shared commitment to excellence in discovery, learning, and engagement is vital to the academic climate. "I've always wanted to be at Purdue," says Parker. "The atmosphere here is more challenging than anywhere else I've been. There are so many bright people

here - a real community of learning. You can really blossom in this kind of environment. I'm absolutely overwhelmed."

Our distinguished faculty members also illustrate the importance of enjoying one's work, and their excitement is contagious. "I've never felt I've had a job," declares Stewart. "Research and teaching have been a pleasure. I have an inquisitive mind, so I'm not ready for retirement. If you really enjoy what you're doing, why give it up? How do you shut off the ideas?" Stewart and the other distinguished faculty members make their subjects come alive, for students and colleagues.

Spend a little time reading "Explaining the Human Condition," available online at www.cla.purdue.edu/stratplan — or read the executive summary we have included with this issue. Purdue's College of Liberal Arts is creating a climate of preeminence, and its faculty, staff, students, and alumni all have a part to play in shaping this great future.



"My ambitions are enormous. I've always believed you should think as large as you possibly can, then leave it to events and circumstances to hold you back.

I'm always looking for the next book or idea that will be a

#### paradigm breaker

or shaper. At 18 or 19, I would have seen being a distinguished professor at

Purdue as an end goal; now it's a great mile marker on my path to excellence."

GLENN PARKER

Distinguished Professor of Political Science

# A New VISION for

or James S. Nairne, the Honors Program and excellence are indistinguishable. Nairne, Distinguished Professor of Psychological Sciences, has published widely in the field of memory and cognitive theory. His expertise is not just as a researcher, however. In 2001, he received Purdue's highest teaching honor — the Murphy Award. Nairne was named director of the Honors Program in fall 2003.

CLA's Honors Program has been a model for Purdue,

James S. Nairne

as the University establishes an honors program open to all students. Clayton Lein, professor of English, who headed the program for more than 10 years, helped develop the present plan of study, in which Liberal Arts students complete eight honors courses in a variety of departments, with at least three classes at the 400 level or higher. Many students take 500- and even 600-level courses typically reserved for graduate students. Approximately 400 students per semester take honors courses in the College. Some are open only to

honors students. Others have an "honors option." When students take a course as "honors option," they typically work more deeply on a topic than other students in the course, under the direction of the professor: writing an extra paper, giving a classroom presentation, preparing a bibliography, or other enriching activities.

The College's Honors Program is open to students at any point in their undergraduate careers, which sets it apart from those of many other universities. Entering students must have an SAT of 1150 or an ACT of 26, or be

in the upper 10 percent of their senior class; continuing students must maintain a 3.0 GPA. Nairne recognizes the importance of allowing students the opportunity to come into the Honors Program later than the first year, because many students may not have been challenged at their high schools and thus performed below their abilities.

When he headed the psychology honors program, Nairne promoted student excellence by providing opportunities for the best students to stretch themselves intellectually. Dean Parcel would like to see each of the 11 departments in the College have such an honors program. That way, honors students would have some type of capstone experience in their major during their senior year at Purdue. As head of the College program, Nairne envisions even more students involved in publishing papers or participating in scholarly conferences. One way of encouraging those activities is by sponsoring an honors colloquium in the spring. Aimee Smith, a junior in psychology with minors in English, Spanish, and child development, presented a paper in the last colloquium. Says Smith, "The colloquium taught me so much about how to take a





### Honors

BY BARBARA H. DIXON

paper and turn it into an oral presentation. It was neat to be included with the Liberal Arts students I think of as the 'stars'!" Smith, who won an award for best spoken presentation, believes participating gave her a lot of self-confidence and will help with her plans to attend graduate school. Last year, approximately two dozen students participated, but Nairne dreams of "filling the ballroom" with honors students and their projects, to foster an even greater level of undergraduate excellence. All honors students also are encouraged to submit papers and compete for more than \$13,000 in honors scholarships.

Nairne's enthusiasm for the program is contagious. "I want to highlight all of the wonderful things we're doing in the College," he says. His staff members share that enthusiasm, including Glenda Crippen, who has been involved with the program since its inception. Crippen heads the Clarence E. Dammon Dean's Scholars Program, which takes promising incoming students and gives them an opportunity to do research with a professor during their first year. Scholars can choose a research project in any area in the College. These projects expand students' understanding of specific disciplines, develop their academic connections, and test their personal career choices. Projects have been varied, including writing a novel, analyzing gender in the media, and helping monitor infants in the lab in the Department of Health and Kinesiology.

Besides classes, students in the Honors Program participate in "honors experiences," get-togethers at which students interact with faculty members. Says Nairne, "I want

to get students involved in scholarly activities — these aren't typical social 'mixers,' but ways for people to connect and grow intellectually." Examples of some recent sessions include watching election results with faculty members from the Department of Political Science, and

having breakfast with Brian Ward, a visiting historian. Karalee Koontz, a junior with a double major in telecommunications and film, was one of several students who joined Ward for breakfast. "It was really interesting," says Koontz, "because he was so open about his ideas. It was great to be able to talk with him with just a small group of students."

Another new program designed to help students connect with faculty members is entitled "Lunch with the Professor." Cory Driver, a senior with a double major in political science and economics has had lunch a couple of times with Professor Chris Pincock, a faculty member interested in the philosophy of science. Driver is president of the Honors Council; he appreciates the one-on-one mentoring that takes place at these informal lunches.

Everything Nairne does in the Honors Program is designed to promote undergraduate excellence and foster creative student growth. The possibilities for honors experiences are endless, and people like Nairne and Crippen are dreaming big, creating ways for students to reach ever higher for academic excellence.



Aimee Smith makes her presentation at the honors colloquium.

# SOUND DEVELOPME

BY GRANT E. MABIE

noticed in a big way.

o say it's a small program would still exaggerate its size. The theatre sound design master of fine arts (MFA) program has one professor.

Nonetheless, this little program is getting

The reason is simple: Professor Richard Thomas. His drive and vision have given Purdue a program that attracts students from across the nation. As Thomas says, "You've got to have good students to have a good program. We go all over in search of talent." The interdisciplinary nature of the program makes the breadth of the search both geographic and academic.

Thomas's students say that his determination and knowledge are the draw. "He's a great mentor," declares Matt Janszen. "It's not just a professor-student relationship. He asks, 'How can I help you pursue your

goals?'" Anthony Thompson adds, "Rick's very demanding. It can be frustrating, but in the end very satisfying. He pushes me to be the best I can be, forces me to raise my standards."

Janszen has a BSE in interdisciplinary engineering, but the theatre sound program allowed him to pursue his real love. "I went into engineering, but I was writing music on my own. I didn't want to major in music, because I wasn't interested in performing. But I found that people at Purdue were very open to what I do. The theatre sound program showed me that I could pursue a career in composing music for films."

Thompson, an electrical engineering technology student, says he has always been interested in audio technology. He opted for a master's curriculum in audio engineering. "I asked Rick for help with building my program of study," says Thompson, "and he was great. Working in technology and with the artistic side gives me a more rounded appreciation of the subject." Thompson

plans to do some music production and then move into contract work on room acoustics.

Thomas points to only a half-dozen other programs of similar caliber in the country. Development of new sound technologies has completely changed the recording process, and studios must work to keep up. "I came to Purdue," Thomas says, "not knowing much about engineering and technology. I infiltrated the University to learn it. I made friends all over campus, which has helped build our interdisciplinary focus. But our first love was always theatre, which makes our program kind of unique."





As Anthony Thompson (left) and Jeff Peters set up to record percussion instruments (top), Professor Rick Thomas works with others to operate the sound studio.



Matt Yohe sets controls at the theatre sound mixing board as Anthony Thompson, Jeff Peters, Scott Krenzke, and Matt



The construction of the new Yue-Kong Pao Hall for Visual and Performing Arts afforded Thomas a unique opportunity to position his program for even greater success. The goal was ambitious. As Thomas notes, "We aim to be the best — period. We're not interested in being second to anyone. Even when we didn't have the new facilities, I was determined to be the best."

And what's it like to work in the new studio? "Absolutely amazing!" exclaims Janszen. "I'm so thrilled I get to use the new facilities during my last year in the program. It's really great to have so much great professional equipment concentrated in one area." Thompson agrees, adding, "This is beyond anything I ever expected. I'm really blown away by all the attention to detail put into designing the studio. Rick has an eye for perfection."

Thomas says building the studio was like fulfilling a fantasy. The initial designs for Pao Hall had detailed plans for the theatre spaces, but just a space 9 by 20 feet for the sound studio. "I looked at the plans,"

Thomas says, "and

thought, 'This is great, but where do I put the students?'" So he went to work. Thomas collaborated with a team of architects, faculty members, staff, contractors, and consultants to design a state-of-the-art facility as good as any his students might encounter as they moved into their professions. "The most rewarding part of the process was all the theatre sound alums who showed up eager to contribute to the project," notes Thomas.

One important change was to separate the recording equipment from the space with the instruments. "After 28 years with a recording studio," Thomas says, "we can at last work with Purdue bands. Technically, we've taken a huge step forward." The mixing table is central to the improvements. "Our last table was 15 years old," notes Thomas. "Now we have a whole slate of up-to-date equipment, to more closely approximate professional sound experiences. And everything is designed to integrate with the theatres — which, to my knowledge, isn't done anywhere else."

Thomas maintains another studio in his home, which he uses to pursue his own research. "I just didn't want to be one of those faculty members who's always monopolizing the best equipment so that the students never get a chance to learn," he says with a laugh. "This is their studio." A playwright and sound engineer, Thomas notes that his goal is to "use sound to push the boundaries of theatre." He is exploring new ways to stimulate audiences, to make the theatre experience more real and evoke deeper emotional reactions. "Completion of the theatres will advance my discovery process. The theatres will give us capabilities for surround sound. Our old theatres weren't really designed for sound, but the new theatres will be designed with sound and education in mind." Thomas anticipates great productions and exciting new educational opportunities. "Changing people's lives — that's what we're after," he declares.

"Preeminence doesn't just happen. A central component of the Strategic Plan for the College of Liberal Arts is the identification of areas of strength that, with some nurturing, could become centers of preeminence—and then building that level of excellence. Bringing new faculty members who show great promise in their fields to campus is one way to achieve the College's goals. By pursuing their research agendas, they help raise the recognition of quality work for the College as a whole."

— TOBY L. PARCEL



ANTONIO TILLIS, assistant professor of Spanish and African American studies, sees the power of the Dean's approach. "The College must build niches of strength," he says, "building to set us apart from the cookie-cutter model and moving to distinctiveness." The interdisciplinary nature of his work on the dispersal of people of African heritage throughout Latin America helps him apply his strengths in a variety of ways. "Many students don't realize how

diverse the African world is," notes Tillis. "I'm able to expand the borders of what African experiences in other parts of the world mean." His research on writers like Manuel Zapata Olivella is bringing a new perspec-

tive and different voices into the traditional canon. "I hope my work will give voice to these writers. For me," he notes, "the development of Afro-Hispanist literature is like that of African American study a generation ago."

Cultivatin

**S. LAUREL WELDON**, assistant professor of political science, came to Purdue in 1999, before the Strategic

Plan was developed, but the excellence of her work as a young researcher has been an example of how well this model can work. She studies feminist theory as well as social and economic policy, especially as these areas affect women and the poor. "I appreciate the University's commitment to preeminence," says Weldon. "We are trying to

offer excellence in research, education, and service to the community.



That's what we're about." She has received the most attention for her work on violence against women. "I have a two-fold goal," she explains. "First, I want to understand why different governments respond to this violence in different ways. And then we should ask what we can do to enact more effective policies." She plans to pursue these cross-national differences, exploring women's issues, class, and race in a book.

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Her colleague, **LEIGH RAYMOND**, is also an assistant professor of political science. He came to Purdue in 2002. As Raymond says, "I hold myself and my students to a very high standard. Excellence requires great care, attention to detail, and thoroughness." He notes that good research ideas can seem hard to come by, "but I must work on them in a way that's of inter-

est to others. For me, research is very connected to changing the world. If we are to be preeminent, we must strive to be effective agents for change."



Raymond's work on environmental policy seems like an ideal research area from which to strive for change, and he is excited about the intellectual climate at Purdue. "I'm intrigued by connections I'm making," he says. "The Purdue Climate Change Center, which is trying to connect policy

research with scientific research, is potentially very exciting. I'm interested in normative ideas and the role they play in the political process - so applied ethics seems like another good connection. Overall, the sense of intellectual community is a big part of why I came to Purdue."

eeminence

"I think I have been singled out," says **DORSEY** 

**ARMSTRONG**, assistant professor of English, "only because of recent visibility. I am honored to get the recognition for my work, but there are so many highcaliber people here at Purdue." Her work on medieval literature, in particular Malory's Le Morte d'Arthur, has even led to appearances on the History Channel and the National Geographic Channel. Armstrong applauds Dean Parcel's goal "to attract and retain the best scholars in a variety of fields, to enhance the reputation of both the College and the University." She adds that these hiring

decisions will also enhance the education Purdue offers its students. Though she remains humble about her successes, Armstrong adds, "Anything I can do to help call attention to the vibrant work of the College is a good thing

ment — the whole College — is making a truly impres-

for Purdue. Our departsive effort. By far, this is the best place I've ever worked."

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#### reeminence

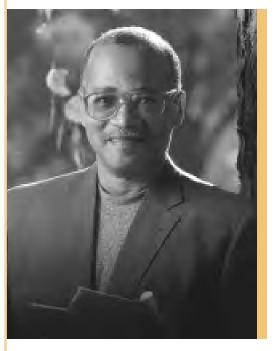
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ERINA MACGEORGE, assistant professor of communication, agrees. She sees preeminence as "standing out in front of everything else, offering something better by a wide margin." She mentions that President Jischke has referred to her work in this way. "It's scary to see myself like that, but I'm thrilled to get this kind of recognition from him and Dean Parcel," she notes. "And I'm excited to be at a campus that is pushing for preeminence." Her work on social support, coping, gender relations, and gender differences is illuminating how we rely on those closest to us.

"I'm studying how people give advice, and what people like to hear from those giving advice," she says. The College's support for her research has encouraged her to think about ways to broaden her studies. "I'd like to look at advice-giving processes in business and the health care field," says MacGeorge. She sees health communication as a fruitful field of research. "Advice with regard to health matters is 'high stakes.' We need to understand how people evaluate and integrate health advice from medical professionals,

media, and friends or family."





JOSEPH DORSEY, associate professor of Latin American and Caribbean history and African American studies, says, "The College is doing a good job to position itself better on the academic map. We have a very fine, developing reputation." He adds that efforts to raise the bar have increased since Dean Parcel arrived. Dorsey studies slave cultures throughout the Americas. "More than anything," he notes, "I would call myself an interdisciplinarian. I'm fascinated by topics that

cross boundaries of history, language and literatures (including linguistics), philosophy, anthropology, and cognitive psychology." Dorsey adds that he is employing all of these disciplines in his current research on slavery and race relations in the Spanish Caribbean. "I'm looking at the differences in African slavery and Chinese servitude, especially in Cuba, where they worked side by side," he says. Dorsey notes that he is even considering pursuing an additional doctorate in one of these disciplines.

"These six faculty members — and so many more throughout the College — are seriously going about their business, doing research to answer large questions that explain some aspect of the human condition. In the process, they are also enhancing the reputation of the College and Purdue. This is a perfect description of the Strategic Plan at work."

## Supreme Recognition

BY GRANT E. MABIE

olleagues from across the country were contacting me," says Frank Lambert, professor of history. "It was a real surprise." In February 2004, Lambert's 2003 book, The Founding Fathers and the Place of Religion in America, published by Princeton University Press, was cited by Chief Justice William Rehnquist in a Supreme Court opinion.

The case, Locke v. Davey, reviewed the use of a state-supported scholarship at a private, church-affiliated college. In his argument, Rehnquist noted, "Since the founding of our country, there have been popular uprisings against procuring taxpayer funds to support church leaders, which was one of the hallmarks of an 'established' religion." The chief justice then cited and quoted from Lambert's book: "In defending their religious liberty against overreaching clergy, Americans in all regions

found that Radical Whig ideas best framed their

argument that state-supported clergy

undermine liberty of conscience and should be opposed." (The opinion can be found at www.supremecourtus. gov/opinions/ 03slipopinion.html.) "It's a bit unusual for justices to cite historians," says Lambert. "The vast majority of their citations are from works of legal theory and precedent. When I wrote the book, I never thought of lawyers and judges as my readers. But I did

Courtesy of the Chicago Historical Society.



try to write for a broader audience. Of course, I was pleased that some law school libraries were ordering Founding Fathers, but I never expected this kind of notice."

Frank Lambert's work on religion in the early years of the nation cauaht the attention of our Chief Justice.

The citation has generated some excitement in academic circles. "As historians," Lambert notes, "we write about the past, but our questions are often couched in issues of the present. It's gratifying that this book has resonated with people."

Yet Lambert is quick to add that he has moved on to new research. A book on James Habersham came out in January from the University of Georgia Press, and a study of the wars with Barbary privateers in the years after the American Revolution is going to be published this summer by Hill & Wang. "I'm very excited about this new project. In the 1780s, America took its independence into the Atlantic world, which was still controlled by Britain, Spain, and France. America was weak and divided, and privateers preyed on our ships." Lambert's work explores the ways in which the Barbary Wars shaped America's domestic and international development.

### Labs + Linguistics =

# EXCEL

BY BARBARA H. DIXON

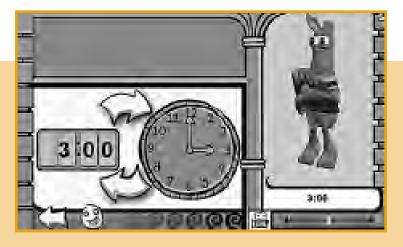
rofessor Ronnie Wilbur fills a room with energy. It only takes a few minutes to be captivated by her passion for linguistics and the complex questions about language she wants to understand: What is universal about all languages? What are the shared qualities of spoken language and sign language? How do facial movements relate to sign language? This energy and passion have made Wilbur preeminent in linguistics — and have enabled her to achieve the "Seed for Success" Award, which recognizes faculty members who attract large sponsored-research grants to Purdue University. Wilbur happily produces the bronze acorn engraved with her name, indicating that a tree has been planted on campus in honor of her accomplishments.

And her research accomplishments are profound! In January 2004, she was awarded (along with a colleague at Ohio State) a National Institutes of Health award of \$2 million for five years of research on the use of the face in sign language grammar.

In May 2004, she received five years of funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to study the grammar of Croatian Sign Language. She has a lab in the Deaf School in Zagreb and has traveled back and forth since 1998, working with Ninoslava Šarac and Tamara Alibašić, two Purdue alumni from Croatia who studied with her and returned to their own country.

#### **The Signing Bunny**

Another of Ronnie Wilbur's projects involves collaboration with computer graphics technology assistant professor Nicoletta Adamo-Villani, an award-winning animator. Together, they have created a program designed to teach math and eventually science to deaf children. Students at



the Indiana Deaf School are piloting the program. This ambitious project involves a "signing bunny" with which deaf children — and their parents — can interact on a computer. To create the bunny, they worked with the Envision Center, capturing the motion of sign language. Because it is captured electronically, children and parents can view the sign language over and over again — changing the speed and the view of the bunny signing.

# IENCE

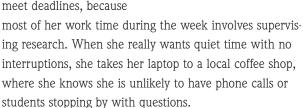
Sign language has been intriguing to Wilbur since she was in graduate school at the University of Illinois. She was determined to disprove the then-prevalent myth that children who learn sign language will not learn to speak. Her research has helped show that children who first learn sign language will develop speech at least as well as those who never sign. In fact, she says, the more signing a deaf child has, the better his or her academic performance will be.

A third grant (also with NSF) links her with Avinash Kak, an electrical and computing engineer at Purdue. Their goal is to use an integrated linguistic and computational approach to automatic sign language.

Wilbur knows that she will not be able to fully address all her research ideas in her lifetime. She laughingly speaks of her "100-year project": trying to figure out how a computer can recognize sign language. Her vision includes a very small computer that can essentially be an electronic interpreter for a deaf person. She also envisions a research center at Purdue that focuses on helping with all types of disabilities. She recognizes that various researchers across campus are working on projects that can help people with disabilities, but says some may not even realize it because they are separated by academic departments.

Besides the enormous amount of research she oversees, she is also passing on her enthusiasm to her graduate students, with whom she meets once a week.
Additionally, she hosts a reading group for interested people from all over campus to talk about linguistics.

All of this work takes energy, but also the ability to manage time. She uses weekends and holidays to meet deadlines, because



Wilbur describes Purdue as "the perfect place to be." In fact, she left a tenured job to come here almost 25 years ago. The energy, creativity, and drive she gives the College of Liberal Arts combine with that of others to raise the College to the next level of excellence.



Ronnie Wilbur looks up from her work at a computer in the American Sign Language Linguistics Laboratory in Heavilon Hall.

ake a list of your favorite authors of the last 100 years or so; chances are good that *Modern Fiction Studies* has featured articles — or even issues — on several people on your list. This journal has quietly gone about its business, analyzing and celebrating the best of modern and contemporary literature, since 1955.

That's right — MfS (as it is lovingly called) just turned 50. Growing out of the conversations of Purdue's Modern Fiction Club, the journal was envisioned on Purdue's south golf course and launched in February 1955 by faculty members in the Department of English. Published today by Johns Hopkins University Press (JHU), MfS has become a force in the field. As Department Head Irwin Weiser says, "Throughout its history, MfS has drawn attention to Purdue, the College of Liberal Arts, and the Department of English because it has published pathbreaking, important scholarship."

John Duvall, professor of English and editor of *MfS*, agrees. "When I was in grad school," he notes, "I knew about Heavilon Hall because of *MfS*. And I aspired to be published there." Duvall came to Purdue in 1998, and became associate editor the following year. He assumed the editorship in 2001. "Our journal

emphasizes discovery and research. We're perceived by scholars of 20th- and 21st-century fiction as the best venue for their work." Associate professor of English and associate editor Nancy Peterson agrees, saying it is a pleasure to work on such a nationally recognized program. That recognition means *MfS* annually receives more than 300 submissions, only about five percent of which can appear in general issues.

MfS is a success. The editors can look back with satisfaction on the journal's years of leadership in the field. "But John and Nancy have taken MfS to an even higher level of excellence," says Weiser. "They have enlivened the discourse about modern fiction through exciting special issues—such as the one on Virginia Woolf in spring 2004—and through general issues that cover a truly broad range of texts."

Peterson says working on the journal has been a rewarding professional experience. "We have a lot of fun deciding on special issues," she says. "These thematic issues attract people doing new and innovative research. We can explore a topic more quickly than you can with a book. We're shaping the field in very tangible ways." She notes that many *MfS* articles end up as chapters in books two or three years later.

GNUS ON Clestone BY GRANT E. MABIE



Nancy Peterson (left) and John Duvall show off some recent issues of Modern Fiction Studies.

Duvall agrees, saying, "Even full professors use our journal as a calling card at university presses. An MfS essay often leads to a book contract. As journal editors, we're collaborating broadly in the world of academic publishing." He notes that attending conferences has shown him how well regarded their work is. "When you sit in those workshops and presentations," he says, "you understand the power of the journal."

The editors have two full-time graduate assistants who help with editing. "It's great training in professionalism," notes Peterson. As Duvall says, "They learn about journal publishing from the inside." Some former grad assistants now work as editors for scholarly presses; others have published their own articles in leading academic journals around the country.

One of the keys to their success is the approach the journal takes to its subject. "We recognize that modern fictions are broader than just novels and films," comments Duvall. "Fictions structure our daily lives. Yes, we're a lit-

erary journal, but we address a broader definition of identity and cultural history." Diversity, feminism, class, sexuality, nationality, globalization, skepticism, and more appear in modern fiction and they are addressed in the pages of each issue.

Peterson notes that library subscriptions for many journals have dropped significantly in recent years, "but not for us. Libraries have years of volumes of

MfS on their shelves, and we're still vital." Duvall adds that JHU Press's Project MUSE (Museums Uniting with Schools in Education), which has featured an online version of MfS issues published since 1994, has slightly reduced the number of individual subscribers — "but we're more widely read now as a result of our Web presence."

MODERN SICTION STUDIE Duvall says their work on the journal has also fed into their own research. Their work on Toni Morrison, for example, has been reflected in journal topics. In fact, Peterson says, "We're known for our work on Morrison here at Purdue."

tion for MfS at the 2004 Modern Language Association's conference in Philadelphia. Colleagues and contributors from over the years and across the country came to celebrate this milestone.

The editors acknowledge how fortunate they are to work on such a well-respected journal. Yet they view each new issue as a critical step forward. "We reflect everything

> the College is about - discovery, growth, earned success," Duvall says. "We have the pieces in place. But we take that achievement seriously. It's a kind of stewardship. Each new essay could be the next great contribution to literary study." Peterson agrees, saying, "The journal must keep growing. We have a responsibility to build on what's been done."

JHU press recently hosted a 50th anniversary celebra-

"Even full professors use our journal as a calling card at university presses. An MfS essay often leads to a book contract."

JOHN DUVALL

# TOULTIC ANTA. FLORA

BY GRANT E. MABIE AND GRANT A. FLORA

n the College of Liberal Arts, he's something of a phenomenon. Floyd Merrell has a passion for semiotics, which instantly sets him apart from most of us.

Semiotics, the study of signs and symbols and their functions in language and culture, is a difficult subject. It includes interpretation of everything from street signs to words, gestures, names, and numbers. Several years ago, he says, "I realized that I didn't like any of the textbooks addressing the subject, so I wrote one." Today, as he approaches authorship of 30 books, he looks back and says, "Did I do all that?"

Merrell is uncommonly modest about his work. He

shrugs off questions of how many books he's written, saying that he doesn't "keep count" or that he "hasn't written all that much." Initially, he acknowledges, he wrote because a young faculty member has to do so. He found that he likes to keep busy, so he writes. He also

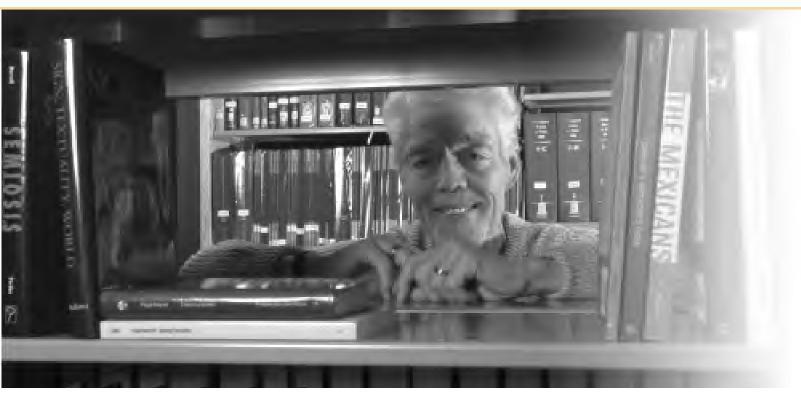
deflects any sense of notability. "Preeminence isn't found in academic celebrity," he says. "It's in the people who go about their work, help their students, and publish to share their ideas."

Yet Merrell has received some recognition for his prolific authorship. As Paul Dixon, head of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, notes, "Floyd has an international reputation in semiotic theory." Merrell was on the executive committee for the Semiotic Society of America from 1998 to 2001, serving as president in 1998–99. He has served as the Spanish editor for the monograph series *Purdue Studies in Romance Literature* 

since 1984. His publications are shaping the fields of semiotics and Latin American culture. His 1982 book, *Semiotic Foundations*, was a CHOICE book of the year from the American Library Association. Among his many other awards are inclusion of his 1984 article, "Structuralism and Beyond," in a yearly edition of the best articles published in

"The semiotic object can never be identical to the 'real' object, since according to Pierce our knowledge . . . can be no more than an approximation to the 'real' world exactly as it is. . . . We simply can't know the world just as it is: our minds are too limited and it is too subtle and complex."

—from Floyd Merrell's Signs for Everybody: or, Chaos,
Quandaries, and Communication (2000)



Floyd Merrell poses with some of the many titles he has written in the fields of semiotics and Latin American culture.

Japanese translation and the Mouton d'Or prize for his 2004 article, "Abduction Is Never Alone." Also in 2004, Merrell received an Excellence in Teaching Award from the department.

Merrell's insatiable curiosity constantly challenges him; it impels him to work things out in his mind. But he says he often decides on an exact topic after he has done much of the writing. He then sharpens his argument during revisions, and seeks a publisher that he thinks might be interested in the topic.

Purdue, Merrell notes, has been a good home for him. The University has encouraged cross-disciplinary efforts, and Merrell's field is by its nature interdisciplinary. "Nobody is satisfied with the definition of semiotics," he chuckles. "It's a system so complex you can't do justice to it."

Despite the highly theoretical nature of his field, Merrell says, "I try to make it as down to earth as possible." He strives to give his students a genuine feel for the topic, posing unanswerable questions and approaching the topic from many different angles. "Each approach can seem reasonable," he says, "but which one seems most reasonable for a student?" Getting students engaged in such complex ideas is key. "When they're engaged,"

Merrell notes, "they get turned on to ideas and work at them."

Merrell's work also addresses Latin American culture, which has led to an interest in capoeira, a combination of dance, singing, and moves that often looks like martial arts. As Dixon says, "Floyd's work on Brazilian culture and capoeira shows his outstanding talent for combining theory and practice. He has been making great use of semiotics to shed light on these unique manifestations of popular culture." Merrell describes capoeira as the art of deception, and frankly acknowledges himself as a novice, though he does serve as faculty advisor for Purdue's Capoeira Club. His restless nature has also led him to teaching in many parts of Latin America over the years, including an intensive two-month seminar at the Catholic University in Sao Paulo, Brazil, for nine summers as Distinguished Visiting Professor. Merrell studies signs, and his energy, creativity, and drive create one clear signal: There's even more excellent work to come.

### around CAMPUS

### Faculty Support: One Road to

BY LEE ANNE SCOTT AND CATHLEEN WALTERS

He makes the most lasting contribution a teacher can make to his students. Professor Kofmehl hones the minds of his students so they do not merely regurgitate the facts; he teaches his students to think more analytically and creatively. I left his course not only with a solid grasp of the material, but with a better mind as well.

Professor Kofmehl is as dedicated to his students as he is brilliant. At the beginning of the fall 1973 semester, my father died. I had to leave campus for over a week. I was taking Political Science 510 from Professor Kofmehl as well as five other courses at the time. I notified all of my instructors of the reason for my absence and contacted all of them upon my return to classes. I caught up on my work in other courses by borrowing notes from other students; however, upon contacting Professor Kofmehl, he insisted that he give me all of the lectures I had missed in their entirety. I sat with him on four separate hour-long sessions in which he gave me all of the lectures I had missed. I feel this demonstrates a true dedication to the teaching profession and to his students.

Excerpt from a teaching award recommendation letter sent by Donna G. Schaibley, former student

enneth Kofmehl was a world-class educator, and a great example of the quality of faculty our students expect. He retired in 1990, and passed away in 2002, but the College of Liberal Arts is grateful that his widow, Jerrie Kofmehl, is honoring his memory with the creation of the **Kenneth T. Kofmehl Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award.** 

This award will recognize preeminence among the faculty, focusing on performance in the classroom. As a deferred gift, it will not make awards until Jerrie passes away, but at that time, an annual award of at least \$5,000 will be made to an eligible College of Liberal Arts faculty member. To be eligible, a faculty member must be employed half time or greater and be nominated by his or her department. Nominations are to be based on teaching service, student ratings, student and faculty recommendations, and efforts to assist and motivate students outside the classroom.

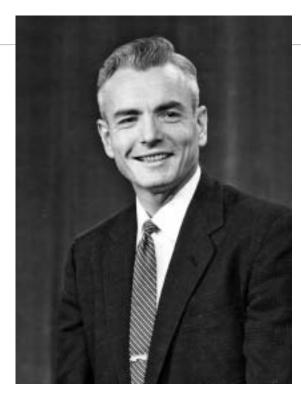
Jerrie says she has found great comfort in knowing her husband's legacy as a great teacher will live on as an inspiration and reward for the leading teachers in the College's future. He won the Standard Oil of Indiana Foundation Best Teaching Award for Purdue University in 1969 (now known as the Murphy Award), the Best Teaching Award for the School of Humanities, Social Science, and Education in 1967, and the Excellence in Teaching Award for the Department of Political Science in 1974, 1980, and 1982. His name was added to the University's Book of Great Teachers in 1999 — and now, with this award, his name will forever be associated with excellence in the classrooms of the College of Liberal Arts.



#### **Preeminence**

Though it is the largest award created for faculty in the College, this is just one of the many ways our alumni and friends are helping the College support our faculty's road to preeminence. Earlier this year, Mary Lou and Dick Hazleton (see below) created an endowment to support new Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences faculty members in their research activities. Gifts of all sizes can have a great impact when combined with University resources already available to our faculty, as these examples illustrate:

- ENDOWED CHAIR: Created with a gift of \$2 million, a named chair can be the cornerstone of an entire department. It allows the College to attract the highest caliber faculty member and often draws other distinguished faculty to the department. The impact grows, as grant funding often increases and the highest quality students are attracted to the department.
- **LECTURE SERIES:** Publicly sharing ideas around a central theme and encouraging discussion on important topics are the heart and soul of a university lecture series. Faculty members share their ideas in this public format, and the College is able to invite renowned speakers from around the globe to share their perspectives with our community. It can be endowed with \$250,000 or funded on an annual basis with a smaller gift.
- **RESEARCH FUND:** Enhancing University support and secured grant funding, this fund can support any specific research area within the College.



Kenneth Kofmehl, remembered for his vitality and commitment to students, has been honored with the naming of a teaching award.

- **BOOK FUND:** Income from an endowed book fund may be used for the purchase of books or other materials in a specified field, as well as preservation, archiving, and other library-related expenses.
- **CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE:** The College has four centers that encourage faculty development. Each offers fellowships for faculty members that include a semester release from teaching to pursue a scholarly or creative project and funds for supplies and expenses. Fellowships are competitive, and faculty members can apply once or twice a year, depending on the center.

In addition to named funds, outright gifts to faculty support are always appreciated. If you were one of the many students influenced by Professor Kofmehl, we would be honored to learn more about your experience with him. For those interested in supporting the Kenneth T. Kofmehl Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award, please contact the College of Liberal Arts Development Office at (800) 991-1194, or visit www.cla.purdue.edu/alumnifriends.

#### **Dick and Mary Lou Hazleton**

"We know what a struggle it can be early in your career," says Mary Lou Hazleton (right, with husband Dick), a graduate of what was then known as the Audiology and Speech Sciences department, "and we wanted to give to an area where we could have an impact. Salaries and state funding cover the basics, but we wanted to help them reach beyond that." The Hazletons created a similar award in the Department of Chemical Engineering, where Dick received his degree, and have enjoyed watching the impact the gift has had on the two programs.

### around CAMPUS

### **Artist's Winning Designs**

BY AMY PATTERSON-NEUBERT

i Zhang is using the most universal language — visual communication — to increase awareness of our multicultural society. And her work in visual communication design is attracting national and international accolades. The Beijing native was recognized in 2004 by *Graphis*, the best-known international design competition magazine, for her posters "Designing across Borders" and "Chinese Character." Top groups in the field, such as the *Print Regional Design Annual* and *Step inside Design* Show, continue to honor dozens of her posters, which often blend a variety of cultural components such as letters or language characters, shapes, and themes.

Thanks to a Liberal Arts fellowship with the Center for Artistic Endeavor, she also will be working on a series of posters addressing cultural diversity. "People think of cultures as being different from one another, but I like to overlap them in my work," says Zhang, who has been an assistant professor in the Patti and Rusty Rueff Department of Visual and Performing Arts for five years.

Zhang's ability to communicate about and to cultures has been noticed internationally. The 2008 Olympic Art

and Design Center in China's Central Academy of Fine Arts has invited her to collaborate on designs for the next summer games. "The national and international design communities recognize her work, because she brings a wonderful combination of cultures to her designs," says David Sigman,



These are just two of the award-winning designs from Purdue's Li Zhang.



head of the department and professor of visual communication design. "These collaborations are not only personal, but also meet the needs of her clients."

Zhang says she seeks the "visual solution." As a visual communication designer, she tries to capture the identity, mission, or purpose of a



company or event through art. Shapes and colors must be eye catching, but also communicate to viewers once she attracts their attention.

Zhang first considered a career in fashion design, which she thought of as a modern art form. While earning her undergraduate degree from the Beijing Institute of Clothing Technology, she began focusing on visual communication design. She earned her master of arts degree at Purdue in 1997.

Zhang's designs, including the three posters honored by *Graphis*, often promote events. Most recently, she created "Spring Dance Works 2004" to advertise a dance concert organized by her colleagues. A copy of this design will be included in the 2005 edition of *Graphis*, which is circulated to more than 15,000 professionals.

Zhang is certain to continue leaving her mark in this young field. Among her many awards are a gold medal from *Creativity* in 1999, first prize from Domtar Creative Awards in 2000, and awards of excellence from *American Corporate Identity Annual 2001* and *Creativity* 2001. Her posters are exhibited or published in more than 16 countries, and are included in the permanent collections of the Library of Congress and museums in Japan and Switzerland. "Visual communication design is easy to love," she says. "I am not only expressing myself, but also communicating with clients and their audiences. Every business relies on visual communication, and I have the joy of creating their visual solutions, while increasing awareness in a multicultural society."

### Purdue Professor Speaks to Congressional Black Caucus

BY EMILY HUNTEMAN

t was a great honor," says Sandra Barnes, assistant professor of sociology and African American studies. Barnes made a presentation about HIV/AIDS in Afrodescendent communities to the Congressional Black Caucus on September 9 in Washington, DC. "It was a very positive experience to be a part of this group of political and social leaders tackling such a critical issue."

Barnes noted in her presentation that African Americans represent about 38 percent of all reported AIDS cases in the United States, according to 2001 findings from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She emphasized that efforts to tackle HIV/AIDS should focus on the choices individuals make, but also on societal issues such as poverty, limited availability of health care, and ideas about sexuality. For instance, HIV/AIDS is manifesting itself more readily in impoverished African American areas than in the society at large, while obtaining affordable and adequate health care also is a challenge, especially in poor areas.

Barnes added to this list of barriers to change the sexually conservative nature of many African Americans. The

topic of sexuality simply makes some leaders uncomfortable. "Some scholars suggest this has made it difficult for organizations, such as the Black Church, that have traditionally addressed social problems to collectively organize to combat the pan-



Sandra Barnes addresses the members of the Congressional Black Caucus in Washington, DC.

demic," she reported to the caucus. "Individual congregations across the country are involved, but it is not enough."

Barnes argued that members of academia and the larger society must better understand the complexities of HIV/AIDS so that they can develop and implement thoughtful and comprehensive strategies. "Without knowledge that moves us beyond fear and stereotypes," she said, "this preventable social problem will continue to be considered a 'personal problem' for the infected."

She remains hopeful that action can be taken. "We mustn't overlook the importance of having a kind of think tank of academics, civil leaders, and religious leaders working together on some sort of policy initiative," says Barnes. "A diverse group of leaders offers a more comprehensive perspective on the problem."

Barnes continues to research the Black Church, exploring its understanding of African American sexuality in general and its reaction to the AIDS pandemic in

particular. She is analyzing their proposed solutions, trying to provide the rigorous study currently lacking in the field. "I'd like to help the Black Church tap into its power as an avenue for help," Barnes says. "But their solutions can't compromise their values. It's a challenge."

### **Breaking Down Stereotypes**

Of all new cases of HIV,
63 percent are among African
American women — many of
whom become infected
through heterosexual contact
or IV drug use.

— Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

### around CAMPUS

### Talking and Listening

BY AMY PATTERSON-NEUBERT

ess than a decade ago, medical researchers studying Parkinson's disease were ignoring how this neural disorder affected speech, even though speech problems often are among the condition's initial symptoms. "People with Parkinson's become soft-spoken, and they lose their intonation," says Anne Smith, head of the Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences. "But neurologists always focused on limb movement, especially gait. Some of the drugs they prescribed for general mobility impaired a patient's speech even more. Now, scientists like Assistant Professor Jessica Huber are investigating the differences in the speech of Parkinson's patients, with the hope of helping these patients improve communication with their families and health-care providers."

This kind of research is one of the reasons Purdue's speech and hearing programs are acknowledged as among the best in the nation. In January 2004, *US News and World Report* ranked the speech program third and the hearing program eighth.

"There is a growing interest in the fields of speech and hearing," Smith says. "That interest comes from the needs of our aging population, as well as from technological advancements that lead to earlier diagnoses and the ability to develop treatments that help people live with speech or hearing disorders."

Purdue is meeting that demand by increasing its number of researchers. The department, formerly known as Audiology and Speech Sciences, hired seven faculty members in the last five years, bringing the total number of tenure-track faculty and clinicians to 29. Three more faculty members are being sought this year.

Also, thanks to a new clinical doctoral program in audiology, the graduate program is recruiting more high-caliber students. In these clinics, students can work with



Graduate clinicians Melissa Gross (left) and Kristen Abbey train on voice-level equipment in the Speech-Pathology Clinic.

children who receive cochlear implants — a hearing amplification

device implanted in the inner ear.

Five years ago, the department teamed with psychological sciences to hire David Kemmerer, a researcher with a background in linguistics and cognitive neuroscience. Kemmerer is looking at how different parts of the brain deal with words that have more than one meaning. He found that the brain processes the meaning of prepositions independently, based on time and space. "Some day, this information could possibly help clinicians develop therapy for stroke patients," Kemmerer says.

Smith's own work, with colleague Christine Weber-Fox, attempts to better understand how the brain processes language in people who stutter, a disorder that affects 5 percent of people in the United States at some point in their lives. Their research shows that the brains of people who stutter process language differently, even when they are not talking. "Preschool age is when many children begin to stutter," says Weber-Fox. "We know that many of them will recover, but approximately 25 percent will not. Right now, we do not know why. We hope to find what underlying factors make the difference." Knowing this could lead to better therapies or even a way to prevent the disorder.

"Here at Purdue, we are taking advantage of opportunities to look at human communication disorders and how important those functions are in terms of quality of life," Smith says. "Language, speech, and hearing are important to everyone."

Michael Flynn (left) oversees the work of graduate clinicians Kyle Timmerman and Paul Coen.

#### From Infants to Athletes

BY FMILY HUNTEMAN

What do babies and beefcakes have in common? For starters, they are potential subjects of research by health and kinesiology professors and students. Here's a look at what two labs in the Department of Health and Kinesiology are doing to advance their particular research areas.

The **Infant Motor Development Laboratory** studies the development of babies' perceptual and motor skills. When a parent brings in a child, researchers in the lab observe the infant as he or she looks at surroundings, touches things, reaches for objects, sits, crawls, walks, and so on.

"We are trying to assess how these skills emerge," says Daniela Corbetta, director of the lab and an associate professor of health and kinesiology. "We also

> Daniela Corbetta prepares to test the eye-tracking capability of an infant from the community.



study how each infant uses these skills — each infant is very different in this respect — and how the emergence and development of such skills may affect infants' discovery of and interaction with their surrounding world."

With funding from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (a branch of the National Institutes of Health), Corbetta and her students are currently trying to determine whether infants attend to specific cues when looking at toys prior to reaching for them. "Recording eye movements in infants is a hot area nowadays," says Corbetta. "Researchers use a novel tech-

nology to track infants' eye movements while they are looking at still or moving scenes. Our lab is the first trying to couple eye movements with infant reaching."



In the Max E. Wastl Human
Performance Laboratory, inflammation is currently the big topic of research.
Inflammation has been linked to chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, and rheumatoid arthritis, but researchers in the Wastl Lab and elsewhere have found that exercise has anti-inflammatory effects.

"We are currently trying to determine whether these inflammation-lowering effects are related to a special signaling receptor," says Michael Flynn, a professor of health and kinesiology and director of the lab. "We have promising preliminary data showing that exercise reduces the expression of this inflammation-inducing receptor."

The Wastl Lab also is researching how exercise that causes muscle soreness influences immune cell turnover, as well as how women respond to low-carbohydrate diets or carbohydrate supplements. Flynn likes to think of exercise as a "powerful drug." He notes that, when a sedentary person engages in vigorous physical activity, researchers see dramatic changes in whole body function and less obvious, but equally important, metabolic changes.

"Exercise has the potential to significantly impact the health and well-being of our population," he says. "It's obvious, however, that we need to find a better way to market our product, in order to get more people doing it."

# IBERAL ARTS MAGAZINE Spring 2005

### around CAMPUS

### Celebrating THE ARTS

#### at Purdue

Patti and Rusty Rueff at the VPA celebration in October 2004.

Photo courtesy University News Service

he arts at Purdue took center stage during an October 15 celebration that attracted an excited crowd of friends and supporters. They came, as Dean Parcel notes, to "pay tribute to some very special individuals who recognize the great value of a liberal arts education and are dedicated to the philanthropic mission needed for the College's growth."

The event, in part, celebrated the naming of the new building. In recog-

nition of an anonymous gift of \$2 million, followed by a pledge of another \$2 million in matching funds, the new building has been named the Yue-Kong Pao Hall for Visual and Performing Arts.

The celebration was also an opportunity to recognize the contributions of Rusty and Patti Rueff. The Rueffs made a deferred gift of \$5 million, the largest in the College's history, and the University has named the Patti and Rusty Rueff Department of Visual and Performing Arts in their honor. The Rueffs also provided funds for a gallery and a multipurpose classroom.

David Sigman, department head, says, "Rusty and Patti's gift allowed us to look beyond the needs of a building and dream about the future for visual and performing arts." During the

event, Patti Rueff was named an honorary Boilermaker, and Rusty Rueff spoke passionately about the value of the arts in education and society. Rueff's remarks are at right.



Mrs. Jischke, Provost Mason, Dean Parcel, Professor Sigman, Distinguished Alumni, Students, Friends, and Family:

THIS IS AN EXTRAORDINARY DAY for Patti and me. Since we first started talking a few years ago about the idea of making a significant donation to Purdue, we have gotten more and more excited about the prospects of how we could work together with this great University to advance the education of the arts, entertainment, and

AS I HAVE SPENT MOST OF MY LIFE in and around the creation of those experiences we call "art" or "enterthe creative process. tainment," it has become clear to me that we are, to paraphrase Mr. Dickens, "in the best of times . . . and the worst of times." Never in the history of man has the accessibility of art, performance, and entertainment been more open. We have the art of the masters within keystrokes, we can carry radio stations of music in our pockets, the movie theater is now on our laptop. Our ability to experience has never been greater. As a consumer of the visual and performing arts, it is the best of times

HOWEVER, IT IS THE WORST OF TIMES for those who are the creators. At every corner, the funding and support of the creation of new works is threatened, and, for us. like our natural resources — which intellectually we know are drying up to us - the long-term effects of a dwindling supply of new works, new artists, new writers, new dancers, new sculptors, the new creators, will have a profound effect on our future generations.

WHILE IT IS TRUE that there must be a balance of support and investments in society, it is more to me like the balance of the geometric symbols. While the triangle and the rectangle may indeed be better for building and construction, it is the circle that brings the wholeness to the equation - and the wholeness to life.

LIKE THE COMPLETENESS that we wait for with the rising of the sun and the full of the moon, so is the need we yearn for as human beings to be whole, to be complete. Without the exposure and experience of the artistic expression, we are not at all complete. We are not whole. A society left without the fullness of the human artistic experience is a society that is blunt and

WHEN I AM STRUCK BY THE BEAUTY of the first painting of a child or in awe of the sophistication of work of one of the masters, when my breath is taken away by

the cinematographer's capture of the landscape, or when I am distraught over the loss of a character who — in a movie, book, or videogame — in less than two hours I have come to care for, or when I laugh from my soul over the words on a page, or when amazed at my mood swing by hearing "that song," or when I feel the need to reach out and touch the piece of sculpture in front of me: it is in those moments that I feel that the emotions of God have been expressed through the hands and

IT IS IN THOSE INSTANCES that I recognize our need as human beings to feel and be touched by those minds of man. that create. And when that happens, I know that I want to be more than the blunt-sided man.

AS D. H. LAWRENCE SAID, "Man is not a mecha-

THE FUNDING OF THE ARTS did not make the cut for this election's presidential platforms and wasn't even nism." We are more! important enough to become debatable. Unfortunately, there is no debate; the cuts for the funding of the arts within our communities, our schools, our states, and at the federal level have been significant. And, unless there is an outcry, this will not change. And it starts with us - those who already realize the importance of the

A SCULPTOR, A PAINTER, A PLAYWRIGHT: they know how to make one dollar go a long way. In this issue! case, each and every dollar really does count!

I ASK EACH OF YOU who can to join Patti and me in the support of the arts. Whether it be your financial support, your time, your voice, or the encouraging word, when provided the opportunity, please give of yourself. The generations to come who will learn and create in this great facility and university are counting on us! THANK YOU AGAIN for being here today. Your pres-

ence and time are greatly appreciated!

WE ARE HONORED to be here today and be a part of the Purdue family, and we remain committed to the support and growth of the education of the Visual and Performing Arts.

### FACULTY notes

MICHAEL BERGMANN, associate professor of philosophy, was named a University Faculty Scholar for 2004–2009.

**DAVID R. BLACK**, professor of health and kinesiology, is president-elect of the American Academy of Health Behavior.

BONNIE BLANKENSHIP, associate professor of health and kinesiology and associate director of Purdue's National Youth Sports Program, was recognized by the sponsoring national organization for the University's program in 2004.

KRISTINA BROSS, associate professor of English, has won an Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award in Memory of Charles B. Murphy and has been inducted into the Purdue Teaching Academy.

BRANT R. BURLESON AND JOHN O. GREENE, professors of communication, received the Gerald R. Miller Outstanding Book Award from the Interpersonal Communication Division of the National Communication Association (November 2004) for the Handbook of Communication and Social Interaction Skills.

ROBIN P. CLAIR, associate professor of communication, received the 2004 Outstanding Book of the Year Award from the Ethnography Division of the National Communication Association for Expressions of Ethnography: Novel Approaches to Qualitative Methods.

PHOEBE M. FARRIS, professor of visual and performing arts, was commissioned by the Department of State to curate a traveling poster exhibit titled, "Visual Power: 21st Century Native American Artists/Intellectuals." The posters will be translated into Arabic, French, and Spanish for exhibition in embassies and other international posts. Farris also organized and participated in the September 2004 exhibit "Native Color" at the Parish Gallery in Washington, DC. The exhibit was a partnership with the Smithsonian to help celebrate the opening of the new National Museum of the American Indian.

REGINA A. GALER-UNTI, assistant professor of health and kinesiology, was named Health Education Mentor of the Year for her exemplary mentorship of community members, students, and health educators in advocacy by the Society for Public Health Education. SOPHE announced award winners at its 2004 Annual Awards Banquet on November 6, 2004, at the National Press Club in Washington, DC. The award is among the Society's highest honors for extraordinary members of the profession.

WILLIAM A. HARPER, professor of health and kinesiology, served as chair of the University Faculty Senate for 2003–04. He was also recognized by the sponsoring national organization for his work as activity director of Purdue's National Youth Sports Program in 2004.

LEONARD HARRIS, professor of philosophy, was a keynote speaker at the annual Philosophy Born of Struggle Conference, held at Rutgers University in October 2004. His talk addressed "Aesthetics and Representation."

JANICE KELLY, professor of psychological sciences, has won an Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award in Memory of Charles B. Murphy and has been inducted into the Purdue Teaching Academy.

ROSEANN M. LYLE, professor of health and kinesiology, was named a University Faculty Scholar for 2004–2009.

WILLIAM L. MCBRIDE, Arthur G. Hansen
Distinguished Professor of Philosophy, has been named secretary general of the Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de Philosophie. He is the first American to hold the position.

ROBERT E. NOVAK, clinical professor of speech, language, and hearing sciences, gave keynote lectures at two conferences held by the Council of Academic Programs in Communication Sciences and Disorders. The first, "Audiology Education Summit: A Collaborative Approach," was given in Fort Lauderdale in January. The second, "Future Challenges to the Professions of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology," was given with Alex Johnson, president-elect of ASHA, in Phoenix in April.

**RICHARD RAND**, professor of visual and performing arts, has been named a fellow of the Purdue Teaching Academy.

KATHRYN J. REEVES, professor of visual and performing arts, has been elected vice-president of the Mid-America Print Council for 2005 and 2006. She was invited as an artist-in-residence at the Frans Masereel Centrum in Belgium for the month of September 2004. In January 2005, Reeves was a visiting artist at the Te Wananga O Aotearoa (University of New Zealand, Manakau) in a cultural exchange program between a select group of Maori, Native American, and Euro-American artists. There, she developed a collaborative group project called "Erasing Empire." That project, as well as her recent prints, were on exhibition in Auckland, New Zealand, January—February 2005.

RANDY W. ROBERTS, professor of history, served as a consultant and on-camera expert for the recent Ken Burns documentary on the life of Jack Johnson. In addition, the Organization of American Historians has invited him to serve as a distinguished lecturer for the next five years.

WILLIAM L. ROWE, professor of philosophy, had his 2004 book Can God Be Free? selected for an "author meets critics" session at the Spring Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association in Chicago, held in April. The critics included Michael Almeida, Klass Kraay, Bruce Russell, and William Wainwright.

ROGER W. SEEHAFER, associate professor of health and kinesiology, received the Outstanding Faculty Teaching Award from the department for spring 2004.

ALAN L. SMITH, associate professor of health and kinesiology, was named a Fellow of the Research Consortium for the American Alliance of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance. He also was named secretary treasurer of the North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity.

DANIEL W. SMITH, assistant professor of philosophy, was a keynote speaker for the Society for European Philosophy's meeting at the University of Greenwich in London in August 2004 and at a conference on "The Limitations of Subjectivity," at the University of Memphis's Department of Philosophy in January 2005. He also gave the Annual Leys Memorial Lecture for Southern Illinois University's Department of Philosophy in November 2004.

MARLENE K. TAPPE, associate professor of health and kinesiology, received the Distinguished Service Award from Eta Sigma Gamma in 2004.

THOMAS J. TEMPLIN, professor and head of health and kinesiology, is serving as president-elect of the National Association for Sport and Physical Education in 2004. He also was the commencement speaker for the University of Michigan's School of Kinesiology in spring 2004, and he was recognized by the national sponsoring organization for his work in 2004 as program administrator for Purdue's National Youth Sports Program.

**DUANE WEGENER**, professor of psychological sciences, was named a University Faculty Scholar for 2004—2009.

### In Memoriann



ROBERT K. BAIN, Professor
Emeritus of Sociology, died on January
20, 2005 following a lengthy illness.
Professor Bain received his bachelor's
degree from the University of Chicago in
1947 following service in the Air Force
during World War II. He then received a
master's degree from the University of
North Carolina and a doctorate from the

University of Chicago. All of the degrees were in sociology.

After completing graduate studies, Professor Bain was employed by the United States Office of Education as a survey statistician to study teacher training, utilization, and turnover. After two years in government, he joined the faculty of Purdue's Department of Sociology in 1959. Apart from visiting professorships in England and Norway, he remained at Purdue until his retirement in 1987.

Professionally, Professor Bain was an applied sociologist, and as a person he was an activist. He was interested in the teaching process and lectured large sections of introductory sociology. Professor Bain also was known as a sympathetic mentor to graduate students within the department.

#### ARTHUR A. CHANDLER,

Professor Emeritus of Spanish, died of an apparent heart attack on December 4, 2004, in West Lafayette. Born on May 29, 1926, in Mount Gilead, Ohio, Professor Chandler came to Purdue in 1954, serving in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures for 41 years. During his career, he served as chair of the Spanish section, and was an early leader in developing language laboratories. He worked hard to build the Spanish library collection at Purdue, paying close attention to the books and periodicals that would augment faculty scholarship. Professor Chandler developed a Spanish culture course that is still taught in the department. After his retirement in 1995, he actively continued to support education by serving on

the board of the Wabash Area Lifetime Learning Association. He and his wife, Jane, who preceded him in death, were active supporters of the arts.

The family has requested memorial contributions be sent to the Purdue Foundation, designated for the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures.





**SAMUEL MARKS**. Professor Emeritus of Communication, died Monday, December 27, 2004, in Lafayette. Professor Marks was born on October 9, 1917, in Chicago, Illinois. He served in World War II as a test and design officer, and had achieved the rank of major upon his retirement from the Army Reserves. He joined what was then the Department of Speech after receiving his doctorate from the University of Wisconsin in 1954. Professor Marks's expertise in theater comprised all technical aspects. He had high standards for his students, and got results with his humor and practical knowledge. After he was tapped by the Purdue Research Foundation to be its associate director for 10 years, he returned to his teaching in the Department of Communication. Professor Marks retired from Purdue in 1981.

### STUDENT success

#### Hail, Hail, Miss Purdue

BY MICHELLE WARREN

hat an experience it's been for Sarah Gentry, a senior in health and kinesiology. Her career as a Purdue student will come to an end in May 2005, but the memories will last a lifetime.

A native of Pittsboro, Indiana, Gentry graduated from Tri-West High School in 2000 and made her decision to attend Purdue University based on several factors. However, according to Gentry, the most important reason for coming to Purdue tied into a passion of hers, athletics. "I wanted to go to a college that I knew would have Bowl-quality football teams," Gentry explains.

Her love of physical activity and the fact that she was a three-sport athlete in high school made it easy for her to choose health and kinesiology as her major. Her academic and athletic success really took off. Gentry has served as a Boiler Gold football ambassador for four years and as Assistant Coach Blaine Bennett's recruiting assistant. "This experience helped me choose collegiate athletics as a career," says Gentry. "My ultimate goal, professionally, is to become a collegiate athletic director."

According to Gentry, the greatest highlight of her academic career was being selected as a member of the 2003–04 Barbara Cook Chapter of Mortar Board. "I was able to serve Purdue," she notes, "alongside some of the University's brightest and most dedicated students."



She also was a member of the Purduettes for four years and was chosen Purduette of the Year for 2004. "This experience made me the singer and performer I am today," Gentry says. She credits her experience in PMO with preparing her for another memorable Purdue experience — being named Miss Purdue 2005.

On January 15, Gentry and the other contestants gathered at Loeb Playhouse for the pageant. As contestant No. 13, Gentry says she felt very confident in her performance: "I didn't know if I had done better than the other girls, but I knew I had done my best." Then the announcement was made: "Miss Purdue 2005 is contestant No. 13, Sarah Gentry."

Sarah Gentry (right), a senior in health and kinesiology, celebrates being named Miss Purdue.

Reprinted by permission from The Purdue Exponent

"I couldn't believe it," says Gentry.
"I brought my hands to my face in astonishment and thanked the judges hysterically."

As Miss Purdue 2005, Gentry will compete for the title of Miss Indiana in June for the chance to represent Indiana in the Miss America Pageant in September. She also will represent Purdue at special events.

Currently, Gentry is student teaching at Lebanon Middle School and preparing for graduate school at Indiana University. Gentry hopes to obtain a TA/GA position within the kinesiology department at IU, where she will be able to put her great Purdue Liberal Arts education to work.

# **LIBERAL ARTS MAGAZINE** Spring 2005

### ALUMMIneny

#### College of Liberal Arts Names Its 2005

### Distinguished Alumni

ince 1986, the College of Liberal Arts Alumni Board has been honoring alumni who distinguish themselves in their careers and communities. There have been 78 recipients over the 19 years the award has been in place, including coaching great John Wooden and C-SPAN founder Brian Lamb.

"Recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Award illustrate the heights to which an alum can take his or her Liberal Arts degree," explains Ted Bumbleburg, alumni board president. "The award is a way to honor them for their great accomplishments and dedication to community service and Purdue. We are also excited to have them back on campus to interact with students and faculty."

Members of an alumni board subcommittee have been researching a new design for the award to present during this year's banquet. The subcommittee interviewed artists from Purdue and the community, deciding on an award from Kathleen Kitch, a local glass artist. "Kathleen's piece expresses important Liberal Arts elements in a distinctive and elegant design that we believe will be unique among the awards presented on campus," explains Sheri Rahdert, a member of the subcommittee.

The Distinguished Alumni and Outstanding Seniors awards are made entirely of glass. The alumni award is a large bowl, and the senior award is a disk. Both have black outlining the rim to represent the College of Liberal Arts. Inside are 12 triangles signifying the 11 departments and Interdisciplinary Studies. The variety of colors indicates the diverse subjects studied, while the overlapping triangles symbolize how Liberal Arts crosses over into each college or school at Purdue.

This year's honorees include:

**CAROLYN CURIEL**, who received her bachelor's in communication in 1976 and an honorary degree from Calumet College of St. Joseph. Currently an editorial writer at *The New York Times*, Curiel's career includes positions as U.S. Ambassador to Belize, speechwriter and special assistant to President Bill Clinton, and producer and writer for ABC News *Nightline*. In addition, Curiel was a Senior Fellow for the Pew Hispanic Center.

STUART HOWARD, who came to Purdue's theatre program from the Carnegie Institute of Technology. He received his master's in theatre from Purdue in 1964. Howard worked in more than 23 Purdue Theatre productions. He moved from acting to casting agent, starting with four years at the Hesseltine/Baker Agency and then accepting a position as casting director for commercials for Ogilvy and Mather. In 1980, he and a friend teamed to form their own casting company.

**JACQUILINE S. RUDOLPH TOUBA**, who received degrees from Syracuse University

received degrees from Syracuse University and the International Institute for Social Studies in The Hague before coming to Purdue. She received her master's in sociology in 1963 and her doctorate three years later. She served as associate professor of sociology at the Institute for Social Studies and Research at Tehran University in Iran. Touba developed the International Youth Art Exchange Program and created the World Awareness Children's Museum in Glens Falls, New York.

ROBERT UTLEY, who received his bachelor's in history from Purdue in 1951. A master's degree from Indiana University came a year later, and Purdue honored him with an honorary degree in 1974. Utley began his career in government as the historian for the Joint Chiefs of Staff, then became chief historian for the National Park Service. Aside from his public service, Utley is known for his outstanding publications in the field of American history.

JACK G. WIGGINS, who studied at the University of Oklahoma and Southern Methodist University before coming to Purdue. He earned his doctorate in psychology from Purdue in 1952. Wiggins served as chief psychologist of the Outpatient Clinic of the Cleveland Psychiatric Institute. He then spent 39 years in private practice, serving as a staff psychologist, administrator, assistant clinical professor, and senior faculty consultant.

### ALUMIneny



Do you wish you could become more involved in the College of Liberal Arts and Purdue? Here is your chance. There is an opportunity for everyone to participate. Send Chris Sharp, alumni relations coordinator, your name and e-mail or mailing address, and she will forward you a letter explaining the opportunities available. Some of these opportunities include:

- assisting at the Liberal Arts booth for various Purdue events on campus and in Indianapolis;
- greeting Liberal Arts graduates and parents at graduation receptions;
- speaking to a class or student organization about your education and career;
- participating in a Liberal Arts job fair;
- hosting a Liberal Arts alumni event at your home or place of business;
- becoming a member of an alumni board committee; and
- interacting with Liberal Arts faculty members, students, and other alumni.



#### **Upcoming Alumni Board Events**

AUGUST 17, 2005 Purdue Day at the State Fair in

Indianapolis — Be sure to visit the Liberal Arts booth for your special alumni gift. Don't forget your business cards!

OCTOBER 15, 2005 Homecoming — Visit the Liberal Arts tent during the Homecoming 2005 Celebration.

For additional information about the College of Liberal Arts Alumni Board's events and happenings, please visit www.cla.purdue.edu/alumnifriends.

#### Additional Benefit of Your PAA Membership

Did you know that a portion of your PAA dues is given to the College of Liberal Arts Alumni Board. This money is used to host events and activities for alumni and students. Join today!

#### **Send Us Your Business Cards**

Send the Liberal Arts Alumni Relations Office your business card, and we will send you a special gift that travels with you! Send your business card to the name and address listed below.

#### **Contact Information**

Please send your questions, requests, and business cards to:

Chris Sharp, Alumni Relations Coordinator Beering Hall, Room 1290 100 North University Street West Lafayette, IN 47907-2098

You can also e-mail ctsharp@cla.purdue.edu or call (765) 494-7884.

### join the family



#### an invitation for membership from J. Todd Coleman, executive director

#### Your membership in the Purdue Alumni Association entitles you to Member-Only benefits such as:

- Subscription to the *Purdue Alumnus* magazine
- PAA Business Directory
- Purdue Wall Calendar
- Member Appreciation Day (July 11)
- Up to 25 percent off new subscriptions to Gold and Black Illustrated
- John Purdue Club points
- 20 percent discount on Purdue University Press items
- 10 percent discount on PAA merchandise sold in our Alumni Boutique
- 10 percent discount on University Book Store apparel and spirit merchandise purchased via the UBS Web site
- A vote in the election of Alumni Association board of directors and alumni trustees
- PAA membership card and window decal
- Life Members receive a Life Membership certificate

#### In addition, your PAA membership helps to support programs such as:

- PAA alumni clubs
- Homecoming and Gala weekends
- Alumni e-mail forwarding
- Alumni Web community services
- Alumni tours and bowl games
- PART (Purdue Alumni Recruiting for Tomorrow)
- Career Services
- Purdue Employees Federal Credit Union
- Invitations to Purdue and PAA events in your area
- Group insurance plans
- MBNA credit card
- Alumni locator service
- Discounts on select car rentals, hotel reservations, and moving expenses with North American Van Lines
- Official Purdue University class ring program
- Purdue Alumni Kids Club



#### Connecting the Purdue family forever

Dick and Sandy Dauch Alumni Center 403 W. Wood St. • West Lafayette, IN 47907-2007 (765) 494-5175 • (800) 414-1541 paa@purdue.edu • www.purdue.edu/paa

#### **PURDUE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

**ANNUAL and LIFE MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS:** 

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Purdue Alumni Association Attn: Membership, Dick and Sandy Dauch Alumni Center 403 W. Wood St. West Lafayette, IN 47907-2007

Or fax it to (765) 494-9179. Questions? Call us at (800) 414-1541 or (765) 494-5175. You also may join online at www.purdue.edu/paa.

Richard A. Soller (BS Physical Recreation Education) is treasurer of the Ohio Senior Olympics and participated in the World Masters Games in Melbourne, Australia, winning third place bronze in the 75-79 age group in the long jump.



Martha (Price) Conlin (BS Physical Recreation Education) is chairperson of the Recreation Advisory Board in Stone Harbor, NJ, and is assistant state coordinator for the AARP 55 Alive Safe Training Program.

Thomas C. Thompson (BS Physical Recreation Education) retired from the Crawfordsville, Indiana, School System after 34 years as a teacher and coach. He is currently a manager of Gray Farms, Inc. in Darlington, Indiana.

Joanne (Cole) Kubesch (BA Journalism) and husband, Sid, received the 2003 Indiana Landmarks Foundation's Rural Preservation Award for the restoration of the historic Westleigh Barn at the farm where Cole Porter's parents lived southeast of Peru, Indiana. The 17-acre property was also named to the National Register of Historic Places.

Dean J. Champion (PhD Sociology), a faculty member at Texas A&M International University, published Corrections in the United States: A Contemporary Perspective, 4th edition (Prentice Hall, 2005).

1966

Ronald J. Matlon (PhD Organizational Communication; MS Education, 1962) recently retired as chair of the Department of Mass Communication and Communication Studies at Towson University in Maryland. He continues as executive director of the American Society of Trial Consultants and as CEO of Matlon & Associates, a litigation consulting firm.

H. Arthur Smith (BA Sociology) has retired as lieutenant colonel of the US Air Force. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and 11 Air Medals during his 25 years of service. Smith has published stories of his exploits, the most recent appearing in "Brave Hearts under Red Skies."

William P. Angrick II (BA Political Science & Government; MA Political Science & Government, 1971) was elected president of the International Ombudsman Institute at their VIII World Ombudsman Conference in September 2004. He is currently Citizens' Aide/Ombudsman for the state of Iowa.

Howard K. Knopfmeier (BS Physical Recreation Education) is teaching K-5 physical education at Stockwell Elementary School in Evansville, Indiana.

Ray A. Paxton (MS Physical Recreation Education) retired after 39 years of service as a school teacher. He won eight medals last June in the Senior Olympics.

L. David Schuelke (PhD Speech) is a professor emeritus at the University of Minnesota and is currently an adjunct professor of communication at Bethel University.

Eugenia S. Scott (MS Physical Recreation Education) is currently a program coordinator for physical education at Butler University in Indianapolis, Indiana.

John Hutchinson (PhD Audiology and Speech Pathology) has been named the 19th president of Lincoln College in Lincoln, Illinois.

Richard W. Milder (MS Physical Recreation Education) was the owner of Milder Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine until his retirement in 2001.

Allen P. Fisher (MS Sociology; PhD Sociology, 1977) received the 2003 C. J. Lynch Outstanding Teacher Award at Coe College. He published two articles: "A Critique of the Portrayal of Adoption in College Textbooks and Readers on Families, 1998-2001," in Family Relations (April 2003), and "Still 'Not Quite as Good as Having Your Own'? Toward a Sociology of Adoption," in the Annual Review of Sociology (2003).

Susan (Mitchell) Monroe (BA Interior Design), founder and owner of the Three Chairs Company, will open a new store in conjunction with Gelato da Vinci in the Clay Terrace Mall in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Frederick M. Randolph (BS Physical Recreation Education; MS Physical Recreation Education, 1975; EDS Education, 1981) is a professor and chair in the Community Health and Health Services Management Department at Western Illinois University in Macomb, Illinois.

Doreen L. Fitzgerald (BA Sociology) has published *Cake* (Ester Republic Press), a book of poems from which two were selected for reading on Garrison Keillor's PBS program, "Writer's Almanac." Fitzgerald is a science writer and information officer at the University of Alaska Fairbanks School of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences.

John G. Hayes (PhD Sociology) is deputy director for the Chattanooga Housing Authority for Planning and Program Development in Chattanooga, Tennessee.



Larry A. Samovar (MS Communication; PhD Organizational Communication, 1962), with Richard Porter and Edwin McDaniel, authored Intercultural Communication: A Reader, 11th edition (Wadsworth); Public Speaking in a Multicultural Society (Roxbury); and is working on a 6th edition of Communication between Cultures (Wadsworth). Both Wadsworth publications have been translated into Japanese and Chinese.

Kathleen J. Turner (MA Organizational Communication; PhD Communication, 1978) has accepted the positions of director of oral communication and professor of communication studies at Davidson College in North Carolina.

Jennifer S. Warner (BA Communication) has been a finalist over the last four years in the Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce Small Business Success Award competition. Warner operates First Farm Inn, named "Best for Rest & Relaxation for 2005" by Arringston's Bed & Breakfast Journal.

Kenneth A. Lavenberg (BA Communication) recently expanded Purple Mountain Greenery, Inc. in Avon, Indiana, from landscaping and design to include handyman and organizing services.

Debra S. Alexander (BA Political Science & Government; MS Management, 1984) is the new executive director of human resources for the Delphi Corporation.

David A. Bednar (PhD Organizational Communication) was sustained as a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints at the semiannual General Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Kathleen (McCain) Murphy (BA Sociology) received her master's from UCLA's School of Public Health and is a guest lecturer at UCLA's Education Extension Program for Health Education of Teachers. She is also a senior consultant at the Southern California division of Kaiser Permanente.



**Bradford P. Anderson** (BA Communication) accepted a position as executive director of human resources and labor relations at Cuesta College in San Luis Obispo, California.

Susan (McDonald) Doron (BA Communication) is media supervisor for the Ten United Advertising Agency in Columbus, Ohio.

Nahid (Khan) Mulla (BA Communication) received her master's in mass communication from the University of Minnesota in August 2004 and is continuing her studies in the doctoral program.

Steven K. May (BA Communication, MA Organizational Communication, 1985) is an associate professor of communication studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He published Engaging Organizational Communication Theory and Research with co-editor Dennis Mumby. He was also named a leadership fellow by UNC and is currently an ethics fellow with the Institute for the Arts and Humanities.

William P. Wise (BA Physical Recreation Education) is a mail processor and UPS specialist for the Lincoln Financial Group.

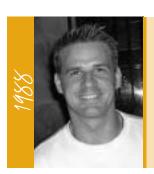
Claire (Lega) Jones (BA Communication) was promoted to associate vice president for college relations at Buffalo State College.

Vincent J. Sampugnaro (MA Organizational Communication) accepted a position at the Catholic Health Care System as corporate vice president of human resources, overseeing human resource functions in eight nursing homes and long-term care facilities in the New York metropolitan

Gail L. Summers (BA Physical Recreation Education; MS Physical Recreation Education, 1993) is currently the director of quality improvement and clubhouse coordinator for Wabash Valley Hospital in West Lafayette, Indiana.

Michael W. Hollowell (BPE Physical Recreation Education) is executive director of the Greene County YMCA in Greeneville, Tennessee.

Patricia (Reddinger) Geist Martin (PhD Organizational Communication) will travel to Costa Rica for a six-month sabbatical to study communication and healing. She will study the ways holistic healing and modern medicine are integrated in Costa Rica's community-based health care system.



Christopher A. Oneal (BA Communication; MSED Education, 2000) is assistant director of Douglas Young Youth and Family Services in San Diego, California.

Susan J. Rupert (MS Physical Recreation Education) is coordinator for the Heart and Vascular Center/Pulmonary, Critical Care Medicine Cluster at MetroHealth Medical Center in Cleveland, Ohio.

Linda (Welcher) Benjamin (BA Communication) was recently promoted to regional operations manager by PepsiCo as part of the Wal-Mart team in Sarasota, Florida.

Teresa (Kenworthy) Bennett (BA Communication) is the new assistant vice chancellor for outreach and director of the new Solution Center at Indiana University/Purdue University at Indianapolis.

Barb (Walters) Harris (BA Communication) is co-founder of PRConsultants Group, a national network of independent PR consultants providing local expertise to corporations in all states and major markets.

Richard K. Farris (BA Communication) is director of business development for Media Technologies in Atlanta, Georgia.

Michael A. Haan (BA Sociology) is pursuing a master's in chemical addiction studies/counseling at the Hazelden Graduate School of Addiction Studies in Center City, Minnesota.

1991
Mick B. Fallis (Physical Recreation Education; BPE Physical Recreation Education, 1994) is an assistant men's basketball coach at NCAA Division III D'Youville College in Buffalo, New York.

Jami (Joslyn) Holt (BA Physical Recreation Education) is a registered US Navy nurse in LaPorte, Indiana.

Lara (Martin) O'Grady (BA Communication) is a stay-athome mom with three children in Arlington Heights, Illinois.

### ALUMNIneny

1990



#### The Eggman

Henry Hughes (MA Creative Writing; PhD Literature, 2002) grew up on Long Island, New York. After high school, he accepted a football scholarship to Dakota Wesleyan University in South Dakota. "Football didn't work out," Hughes says, "but school and writing did."

Hughes came to Purdue as a graduate student. A half-time teaching assistantship was one incentive. "Purdue also had a poet I really admired. Marianne Boruch." he adds.

Purdue offered tremendous opportunities in its creative writing program. "With the help of fellow graduate students like Elizabeth Stuckey-French," says Hughes, "I created *Sycamore Review*, the University's first literary magazine, and I served as its chief editor for three years. I also did a weekly radio show on WBAA called 'Purdue Poets.' It was a lot of fun." Hughes also fell in love with Indiana's outdoor activities, especially fishing and boating. Some of his poems are based on these experiences.

After receiving his master's degree in 1990, Hughes spent five years teaching English in Japan and China. "But I returned to Purdue in 1997," he notes, "to study American literature with G. R. Thompson and Len Neufeldt."

Hughes says that Purdue's greatest strength is its faculty. "The writing faculty were extremely generous with their time," notes Hughes. "I know I must have taxed their patience, but they gave and gave." The literature faculty was just as helpful, he adds. "People sometimes wonder why I chose 'an engineering school' to study English. Purdue is a deep and diverse university, and our students compete with the best."

Hughes published his first collection of poetry, Men Holding Eggs, in 2004. The volume received the 2004 Oregon Book Award for poetry. As poetry judge Paula Gunn Allen noted, "Men Holding Eggs is filled with poems so powerful, so moving, I am speechless." Winners hold readings and make public appearances across the state. "That was a great honor," Hughes says, "and it's brought my book to a much wider audience. I love doing the readings, especially when people ask off-the-wall questions. That's where I get new ideas for poems."

1992

Peter A. Greenley (BA Communication) manages media relations for the western region of Reed Smith, a global corporate defense law firm.

**Darolyn (Morin) Jones** (BA English) has written the book *Painless Reading Comprehension*, and is living in Pendleton, Indiana.

Colleen M. (Tunney) Martin (BA

Communication) was appointed vice president of corporate affairs for TransUnion, a leading global information solutions company in Chicago.

Tracy (Salatin) Meyer (BA Physical Recreation Education) teaches sixth-grade physical education at Sunman Dearborn School in St. Leon. Indiana.

1993

Julie (Kennedy) Maynard (BA English) accepted a position as sourcing associate in Global Procurement for Lilly Research Laboratories, Eli Lilly & Company, in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Robert T. Spalding (MA Organizational Communication) recently authored *The Essential Guide to Touring Washington Wineries*. He and his wife, Kim, are also getting ready to release their 2003 vintage from their new winery, Seia Wine Cellars

William M. Yazbec III (BA Communication) earned his master's degree from the University of Memphis in Tennessee, and is pursuing a doctorate in creative writing at Florida State.

1994

Jacob J. Jones (MA American Studies) successfully defended his dissertation, "The World Was Our Garden: U.S. Plant Production, Empire, and Industrial Agri(culture), 1889—1948," in August 2004. He will earn a PhD in history in December and lives in Germany.



Wm. Christopher Clarke (BA Psychology; MSED Education, 1994) is joining Duke University's Pratt School of Engineering as the associate dean for development and principal giving. He will complete a PhD in education administration from Purdue in the spring of 2005, specializing in higher education administration.



Shawn H. Smith (BA Communication), right, is the president and general manager of the New Hampshire Fisher Cats (AA Eastern League affiliate of the Toronto Blue Jays).

**Krista (Bona) Lam (BA Communication) is an account executive in the staffing industry.** 

**Kevin R. Short** (MS Physical Recreation Education) is an assistant professor at the Mayo Clinic's Endocrinology Research Unit in Rochester, Minnesota.

Melissa (Blevins) Wilcoxson (BA Communication) is media director for Mangan Holcomb Rainwater Culpepper in Little Rock, Arkansas.

1995

**Gina (Rosenberger) Gutierrez** (BA Physical Recreation Education) is a physical therapist at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio.

**Keily (Neal) Mohler** (BA Physical Recreation Education) is a senior sales representative for Eli Lilly & Company in Lafayette, Indiana.

1996

Edgar W. Barnette (BPE Physical Recreation Education) accepted a job as director of business development for Innovative Motorsports.

Tanya Ninefeldt Jordan (BA Communication) is a marketing and communication specialist for the PACE Program at General Motors in Warren, Michigan.

**B. Thomas Longwell** (BA Psychology) is a counselor in the counseling center at Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond, Kentucky.

Amber (Clanton) Kinser (PhD Communication) is the recipient of the 2004 Feminist Teacher/Mentor Award given by the Organization for the Study of Communication, Language, and Gender. She directs the Women's Studies Program at East Tennessee State University and was promoted last year to associate professor.

Martin Walls (MFA English) has been awarded the Witter Bynner Fellowship in poetry, which carries a \$10,000 prize and an invitation to read at the Library of Congress.

Rachel (McDonald) Baase (BA Physical Recreation Education) is a readiness flight commander in the US Air Force.

Brett A. Creech (BA Communication) is scheduled to complete his master's degree in student affairs and higher education at Indiana State University in May 2005. He is an assistant hall director in Residential Life at ISU.

Brian M. Quirk (BA History) graduated from the University of Dayton School of Law in May 2004 and passed the Wisconsin Bar exam in July 2004.

Amy Beth Lemire (BA Communication; MA Communication, 2002) accepted a promotion to human resources specialist training leader at a Kimberly-Clark manufacturing facility in Everett, Washington.



Stephanie L. Smith (BA Communication) is a member of the Indianapolis Colts Cheerleaders squad in Indiana.

Yves L. Lynem (BA Communication) is a POA for Merrill Lynch in Chicago.

David M. Berch (BA Sociology) is a firefighter for the Rancho Cucamonga Fire Protection District in California.

Jefra (Shanks) Bounds (BA Physical Recreation Education) is gym director for The Little Gym in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Sophie M. Malik (BA Communication) completed a master's in English literature from Queen's University in Canada, and joined Unilever Pakistan Ltd. to develop their internal communications department. She also heads the company's recruitment function.

Carrie J. Muehl (BA Communication) was promoted to client services manager at Buckingham Asset Management in St. Louis. She was also appointed chairwoman of the firm's Community Action Committee.

Brian C. Remsberg (BA Communication) was recently promoted to senior account executive at Imre Communications in Baltimore, Maryland.

Nicole E. Visnyak (BA Communication) began a new job at Corporate Creations in Chicago. She also sits on the associate board of L.E.A.R.N. Charter School in Lawndale, Chicago, and is vice president of membership in her local Toastmasters

Anne (Shipman) Claussen (MA Communication) is a senior healthcare consultant with Deloitte & Touche in Chicago.

Tara M. Stevens (BA Communication) joined Cima Communications in Puerto Rico as an account executive.

Marie D. Hernandez (BA Communication) was promoted to Midwest regional sales manager for Marriott International in Rosemont, Illinois.



Eve Marie Scrogham (BA Communication) is training to run in the Disney Marathon with the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team in Training program.

Jill E. Anderson (BA Communication) is marketing director for American Chiropractic in Louisville, Kentucky.

Cynthia Grubbs (BA Communication) is an interactive account coordinator for Bernard Hodes Group in New York.

Natalie M. Moorehead (BA Communication) is an administrative assistant for Deloitte & Touche in Chicago.

Amii L. Bischof (BA Fine Arts; AAG Agricultural Sciences, 2001) is an assistant manager for Shoe Show in Warsaw, Indiana.

Andrew M. Busch (MA American Studies) is pursuing his PhD at the University of Texas in Austin.

Lawrence Davis (PhD American Studies) has a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Michigan. He is affiliated with American Culture, the Center for African American Studies, and the Department of English.

Nicole (Silver) Lehtinen (BA Fine Arts) recently accepted a position as art teacher at Greendale Middle School in Greendale, Wisconsin.

Fuifuilupe "Lupe" Niumeitolu (MA American Studies) is teaching a course, "Activism and Social Change," at the New College of California in San Francisco.

Kimberly J. Wildridge (BA Interior Design) is a designer for Office Works in Fishers, Indiana.

### ALUMINeny



### A Note from the Alumni Board President

reetings, alumni and friends! Fall was an exciting time for the board and our alumni. Thank you to those who visited the Liberal Arts tent during the Homecoming celebration last fall. We hope you connected with an old friend and discovered some of the exciting programs and activities happening in the College. If you missed us, plan to visit the Liberal Arts Homecoming tent on October 15, 2005!

In December, the Alumni Board hosted a "finals break" during the fall finals week. Cookies and hot chocolate boosted the enthusiasm of our students as they studied hard for their finals. We also wished the December 2004 graduates well in their new endeavors with a reception prior to the graduation ceremony. All of our graduates received a Liberal Arts alumni pin they can proudly wear. They may have left Purdue, but they can show their Boiler pride wherever they go.

Alumni frequently ask us how they can contribute to the College, and one way is through volunteering. The board is excited to offer a number of volunteer opportunities to all Liberal Arts alumni. Please read more about the opportunities we have available for you to connect with Liberal Arts and Purdue, many of which are presented on page 34 of this issue. I can tell you from experience that giving back to the College is a truly rewarding experience. We look forward to seeing you soon.

HAIL PURDUE!

TED BUMBLEBURG

President College of Liberal Arts Alumni Board BA, 1996, Leisure Studies

### Dean's Advisory Council

#### D. CAROL KRIEBEL BANGERT

BA, Sociology and Anthropology, 1981

#### **MARY ANN COMBS**

BS, History, 1954 MS, Education, 1991

#### **SUSAN ERLER**

BS, Audiology and Speech Sciences, 1969 MSED, Education, University of Illinois at Chicago PhD, Audiology, 1995, Northwestern University

#### JAY D. FEHNEL

BS, Communication, 1984 MBA, Business Administration, 1992, Northwestern University

#### **MARGARET KERNAN**

BA, Sociology and Anthropology, 1974

#### **HY MARIAMPOSKI**

MS, Sociology, 1971 PhD, Sociology, 1977

#### **JULIAN PHILLIPS**

BA, Communication, 1977

#### **TED PRIEBE**

BA, Humanities, Social Science, and Education, 1968

#### AMV DORRING

BA, Psychology, 1977, Hollins College Diploma, Phonetics and Linguistics, 1977, Leeds University MS, Audiology and Speech Sciences, 1979

#### J. RUSSELL "RUSTY" RUEFF JR.

BA, Communication, 1984 MS, Education, 1986

#### **CAROLYN A. WURM**

BS, Psychological Sciences, 1961 MA, Psychology, 1964, University of Maryland PhD, Psychology, 1969, University of Maryland

#### **TED W. BUMBLEBURG, Alumni Board President** BA, Leisure Studies, 1996

RALPH WEBB, Faculty Representative

Professor, Communication

#### Alumni Board

#### TED W. BUMBLEBURG, President

BA. Leisure Studies. 1996

#### **TOM JENKINS, Vice President**

BA, English, 1965

#### SHERI RAHDERT, Treasurer

BA, English, 1990

#### LILLIE MARTIN FISHER, Immediate Past President

BA, English, 1960 MFA, English, 2001

#### **RON J. ALTING**

BPE, Physical Education, 1996

#### **BRIAN BEELER**

BA, History, 1995

#### WINIFRED CLARK

BS, Speech, 1955

MS, Audiology and Speech Sciences, 1967

#### **MARGARET J. HAND**

BA, English, 1975

#### **ELEANOR A. HANNEMANN**

BA, History, 1982

#### **BETSY ISMAIL**

BA, Fine Arts, 1987

#### M. LEROY KEYES

BS, Physical Education, 1969

#### JO ANN M. KLOOZ

BA, Communication, 1984

#### DAVID H. KUEBLER

BS, Psychology, 1959

#### **VIRGINIA S. MCKAY**

BS, German, 1954

#### **GEORGE MCNELLY**

PhD, Psychology, 1954

HDR, Technology (College of Technology), 1997

#### **DOROTHY RUNK MENNEN**

MA, Theatre, 1964

#### **BEATRICE H. SMITH**

BA, Creative Arts, 1974

#### **ROBERT B. WHITESEL**

BS, Psychology, 1973

#### **KORINA WILBERT**

BA, Foreign Languages and Literatures, 1989



### calendar of events

College of Liberal Arts

	MAY 2005	
13	Senior Send Off — all CLA graduating seniors Founders Park — in front of Beering Hall* *Rain location – Beering Hall lobby	
14	Commencement (9:30 a.m.)	
16	Summer School I begins	
JUNE 2005		
10	Summer School I ends Liberal Arts Women of Purdue event (New York)	
13	Summer School II begins	
JULY 2005		
8	Summer School II ends	
11	Summer School III begins	
16–22	National Youth Sports Program at Purdue	

AUGUST 2005		
5	Summer School III ends	
6	Commencement (9:30 a.m.)	
17	Purdue Day at the Indiana State Fair Be sure to visit the College of Liberal Arts tent at the State Fair Grounds in Indianapolis, Indiana	
22	Fall semester begins	
24	Lafayette/West Lafayette Chamber of Commerce Business after Hours at Purdue	
SEPTEMBER 2005		
10	Purdue Football — versus Akron	
	Family Day	
12	Dedication of the Yue-Kong Pao Hall for Visual and Performing Arts	
OCTOBER 2005		
1	Purdue Football — versus Notre Dame	
8	Purdue Football — versus Iowa	
15	Homecoming 2005 — versus Northwestern Be sure to visit the College of Liberal Arts tent	



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