Feature Article: The Rich History of Alumni Hall • Biennial Schedule • 40 Years of IUOA
Buzzworthy News


Bill Brattain, IMU Assistant Director and UB advisor from 1967-71, recently published Entertainment in the Heartland, a book of personal memories from his time at IU and Western Illinois University.

Laura Miller, current Assistant Director for the Canvas Creative Arts committee, was a rider for the Wing It Cycling team, which placed 3rd in the 2013 Little 500 women’s race.

Canvas Magazine won the 2013 Indiana Collegiate Press Associations’ Literary Magazine of the Year award.

George Thomas (UB '11) was named Greek of the Year by IU's The Odyssey. He also is a 2013 recipient of the IU Kate Hevner Mueller Outstanding Senior Award.

We’ve got mail!

I just finished reading the article in the JWS newsletter Spring 2013 “Art in the IMU” and it brought back memories of being hired during the summer 1986 to catalog the art. Earlier that spring there had been a fire in a storage room in the hotel area that stored some of the art, unfortunately some pieces were lost. In the filing of insurance claims, it was obvious that the IMU’s records weren’t as complete or detailed as they needed to be. At the time I was the grad assistant for Winston Shindell and needed some summer employment.

I spent weeks with a catering cart trolling around the IMU with a card catalog system, a Polaroid camera, tape measure and keys! I also spent a weekend with two art appraisers focusing on appraising the items that were deemed the most valuable.

Not sure if those records helped in the future but I know I certainly enjoyed my art cataloging experience. I was able to provide a needed service and got to see almost every room in the hotel and IMU. I don’t think I have ever been in another student union building that is as unique as the IMU.

– Maura Harling Stefl, IMU Graduate Assistant 1984-'86
A Message From The JWS President

Fellow Alumni,

This year the JWS awarded more than $24,000 in scholarships to twelve students. No small contribution to UB and a warranted source of pride for all of us who raise and allocate funds on behalf of JWS. Granting scholarships was one of the primary reasons our organization was founded, and through the generosity of our alumni, we are able to recognize exceptional achievements of directors and committee members. But our group is about more than scholarships and the other fundraising efforts we undertake to support the IMU.

This spring we are kicking off an ambitious mentorship campaign, led by Megan Ditton (Concerts ’96 & ’97) and Chad Bradford (Comedy ’97, President ’98), which will allow us to match each current UB Director with at least one alumnus. It is our hope that each mentorship affords the current board member programming advice, an extra ear to bend, maybe even a lead on a summer job, but we believe the mentorship program can be mutually beneficial. Remember your time on Union Board? Ever wish you could do it all over again? Consider this your chance – your chance to live vicariously through the successes of the current Board.

Only a small number of alumni are needed as official mentors, but we need a huge number of you to come back to town for Biennial, which will be held the weekend of October 4-6. Meet the 2013 board and let them share their stories (they are every bit as impressive as the boards you remember), swap war stories with fellow alumni of all ages, and, best of all, soak up the UB love in the IMU.

Best Regards,

Michael Gosman
President, John Whittenberger Society
jws1909@indiana.edu
414-978-5350
I am pleased to inform you that the first semester of the 104th Union Board was a huge success! We welcomed notable women’s rights activist and lawyer Sandra Fluke, and sponsored a town hall meeting with the IU Student Association, the IU Student Foundation, and several other student groups. Canvas hosted the third annual Blue Light Reading Series and another successful magazine premiere party. The Little 500 weekend was also extremely busy and successful for Union Board. We hosted the official Little 500 Step Show with the National Pan-Hellenic Council that attracted over 1,000 attendees. In addition, the Little 500 concert in Assembly Hall featuring Macklemore & Ryan Lewis brought in over 7,200 concertgoers!

Union Board is in the midst of several exciting changes. This past spring, UB graduate advisor Demetri Morgan completed his master’s degree in the Higher Education Student Affairs (HESA) Program at IU. Demetri will be pursing a PhD in Higher Education at the University of Pennsylvania next fall. We wish him the best of luck. Colleen Rice from Winthrop University will be our new graduate assistant for the upcoming semester.

We are also saying goodbye to Megan Bottoms who served as UB Programming Advisor for the past five years. She will be staying on campus, taking over as the Assistant Director of Academics, Initiatives, and Services with RPS. Lastly, current Spirit & Traditions Director, Kellie Boberek, will be transferring to the University of Missouri. We will be recruiting and selecting a replacement director for her this fall. As Kellie has contributed greatly to the 104th Board, we know she will continue to have success at her new university.

With our transition to summer, Union Board has started planning new and exciting programs. We also have four new summer directors that are joining in these efforts. These new faces are Lori Probasco, Josh Johnson, Maggie Vonderahe, and Saman Parsia.

We are looking forward to this fall and all it has in store for us. The agenda for the coming semester includes events such as our Fall Retreat, Welcome Week concert, World’s Fare, Taste of the Union, Themester lecture, and of course, our weekly film series.

In closing, I would like to thank you for your continued support. We greatly appreciate all that the John Whittenberger Society has done and continues to do for Union Board. See you at Biennial!

Sincerely,

Jared Thomas
President, 2013 Indiana Memorial Union Board
ubpres@indiana.edu

Our Mission

The mission of the 104th Indiana Memorial Union Board of Directors is to unify and represent the students and greater community of Indiana University through diverse, high-quality programming. We strive to improve students’ academic and personal experience with thought-provoking, educational, and entertaining programs. In addition, we are dedicated to promoting the Indiana Memorial Union as the center of campus life and serving students as stewards of the Union. As a Board, we are committed to enhancing the IU community by fostering student involvement and personal growth while upholding the spirit and traditions of Indiana University.
Dear Alumni,

www.jws.indiana.edu | Fall 2013 | JWS

Thursday evening, October 3, 2013
Union Board Meeting
*Distinguished Alumni Room*

Union Board Film (TBD)
*Whittenberger Auditorium*

Friday evening, October 4, 2013
Open House
*Union Board Office*

Alum and UB 2013 Networking & Reception
*Alumni Hall*

Union Board Film (TBD)
*Whittenberger Auditorium*

Saturday morning, October 5, 2013
Remembering Herman B Wells
Informal coffee & pastries with James Capshew and Ken Gros Louis
*University Club*

Choose Your Own Campus Adventure
Self-guided tours of campus attractions and newer facilities

Saturday afternoon, October 5, 2013
Taste of Bloomington Walking Tour
Several downtown destinations will offer special “tastings” for our JWS members

**IU vs. Penn State football game**
*Memorial Stadium, time TBD*

Saturday evening, October 5, 2013
Biennial Reception and Dinner
Program features recognition of scholarship recipients and keynote speaker Dr. Laura Osteen (UB '89-'90, '90, '91)
*Tudor Room*

Sunday morning, October 6, 2013
Past Presidents Coffee
*Federal Room*

Brunch
*Tudor Room*

Biennial reservations open late July
Hotel reservations available now
imu.indiana.edu/hotel
Remember to use group code ub2013
Invitations will be mailed soon | 812-855-4682
Alumni Spotlight!

UB Experience Sparks a Career in Student Affairs

Laura Osteen
Director of Florida State University’s Center for Leadership and Social Change

Sometimes a very simple remark will make you stop and examine yourself in a profound way. For Laura Osteen (UB ’89-’90, ’90, ’91), BA ’92, this occurred her sophomore year in the UB office after a disappointing defeat for the IU basketball team. Seeing that Osteen was clearly a bit down about the loss, someone said to her, “Please tell me you’re not one of those people who think basketball is everything.”

Was she? Was basketball central to her identity? Osteen had to stop and think. She’s done a lot of thinking since that day, and the field of student affairs and leadership is much richer as a result.

After graduating from IU, Osteen earned a Master of Science in Student Affairs in Higher Education from Colorado State University in 1994 and a Doctorate in College Student Personnel from the University of Maryland in 2003. She is currently director of the Center for Leadership and Social Change at Florida State University in Tallahassee. “Our goal at the Center is to transform lives through leadership education, identity development, and community engagement,” she said. Osteen also teaches courses on leadership as an adjunct professor in the College of Education’s Department of Educational Leadership and Policy.

When Osteen came to IU from Silver Spring, Maryland, she wasn’t thinking ahead about a career in student affairs—she initially harbored hopes of majoring in ballet—but UB changed everything. After attending the activities fair at the very start of her freshman year, she immediately joined the Special Events committee and caught the UB bug. She ran for the board in the spring, was elected, and became director of the Special Events committee. The next year she was vice president, and her third year on the board she served as president.

It was no accident that Osteen felt encouraged to engage with identity issues within the UB environment. “One of UB’s gifts to directors and committee members is that we are given creative space to discover who we are and who we were meant to be in this world,” she said. In Osteen’s view, this path of discovery is powerful because students learn to deal with responsibility and accountability on both individual and collective levels.

The freedom to create is essential. “We weren’t told, ‘These are your responsibilities, and you need to do these things,’” she said. “Instead we were welcomed to the space and asked, ‘Now what are the needs of your community and how are you going to respond to those needs?’”

One aspect of resolving identity issues while an undergraduate at IU was the discernment of her career direction. “Through my experience on UB I came to understand the work that I wanted to be in, which is student affairs,” Osteen said. “How do we create campus environments that enable and empower students?”

The Center for Leadership and Social Change at Florida State shares many of the same goals as UB, but extends the focus beyond the campus to students’ local and global community. “Our community outreach leadership education and identity development programs seek to develop responsible citizens and effective leaders,” Osteen said. “We want to help students understand who they are and what their unique contribution to their community can be.”

Osteen has ridden an exciting wave of change in student affairs at Florida State since her arrival in 2004. “When I started we had a little office in the Union,” she said. “We had to go find phones and desks. Nine years later, we’re getting great support from the administration. Eric Barron, our president, has made a clear statement that he wants Florida State to be the most student-engaged campus in the country. The Center for Leadership and Social Change is one of the largest and most comprehensive centers on any college campus. I feel lucky to be here and work in a place that really values this work.”

Although Osteen has come a long way since her UB days at IU, the role of college basketball in her identity may be one matter that is still not fully resolved. Given her close connections to Maryland, Indiana, and Florida State, don’t ask her to declare her allegiance during March Madness. Even an expert can have some issues to work out.
In December of 2012, Don Luse retired from a career with college unions that spanned five decades. UB directors from the ’70s, ’80s and early ’90s were challenged, guided and supported by Luse during his tenure as assistant director for activities and events at the IMU. He became director of the student union at the University of North Carolina (UNC) in 1992 and held that position until he retired.

Luse’s work in the field of college unions extended beyond IU and UNC and in recognition of his contributions, the Association of College Unions International (ACUI) presented him with the Butts-Whiting Award in March of 2012. “Don had an uncanny knack for inspiring all of us to continue to do the work we have been drawn to do,” ACUI executive director Marsha Herman-Betzen said, “and he accomplished this with an unassuming personality rarely seen by leaders of his stature.” Former IMU director Winston Shindell emphasizes Luse’s “incredible relationships” with students. “Don had such a strong influence on their experiences,” Shindell said. “One of his greatest strengths was the close bond he always had with our students.”

How did you get started in your career with college unions?

I grew up on a farm in Champaign County, Ohio and went to Bowling Green State University (BGSU), which wasn’t that far away. I had a job there operating audio-visual equipment and after graduating in 1968, I was able to use my experience to get a job at BGSU’s Firelands campus in Huron, Ohio. This campus consisted of two buildings and they built a third while I was there. In addition to operating equipment, I started working on activities and creating programs, and I realized that I really liked it. I was advised to get a graduate degree, so I went to the University of South Carolina (USC) for my master’s degree in student personnel. While in grad school, I decided that union work was what I wanted to do.

During your time at IU, UB programmed a long string of big concerts, presented films at multiple locations with the IMU, brought scores of famous people to lecture and started Live from Bloomington. You must have many stories to tell.

Too many. My favorite may be one from John Malkin (UB ’83-’84). John tells a hilarious tale of a series of mishaps that occurred when he was taking the late comedian George Carlin back to Indianapolis to catch a flight. Another memory is from a concert in Alumni Hall where a band called Sonic Youth introduced me to stage diving. We built a barricade to keep the crowd off the stage. The barricade was torn down on the band’s first song. I spent the whole night trying to keep students from climbing up there and diving into the crowd.

Do you have any thoughts about UB from your perspective today?

ACUI talks about the “laboratory of citizenship.” I love this idea. That’s what a college union is all about. UB’s committee structure is perfectly suited to this goal. Every director has a committee, and as they learn to develop as leaders, they are helping their committee members develop as well. At a lot of schools over the years, the student union board has become less prominent. If you want great programs and that’s all you care about, you hire professional programmers and you don’t work with volunteer students. On the other hand, if you care about having good programs and also about developing leaders, you do what IU does. UNC does that, too. The two schools both emphasize the role of students in programming and in the operation of the building. If you view the student union strictly as an auxiliary service whose job is to sell food, facilitate conferences and make money, then students don’t have the opportunity to learn. IU has done it right for years and years and years. It’s very important that this committee structure be maintained.

What are some of your most important accomplishments at UNC?

We renovated the student union building and started an art collection. In the planning process for the renovations and also in the context of acquiring art, we talked about the fact that if the union intends to be the community gathering place, it needs to be reflective of the entire community. Native Americans are part of the UNC community, yet the union didn’t have anything that reflected their presence, so we reached out to Native American artist Senora Lynch. She created the design used in the bricks on a plaza. If the university is recruiting Native American students and they bring them to that plaza and show that brick pattern to them, those students then know that they matter on this campus. We also worked with the Muslim Student Association to choose a work of art to add to the union that would speak to Muslim students, and that was very successful also. The big picture to me is if you want the union to promote community, then you want symbols of everyone who’s in that community on display.
On your next visit to Alumni Hall, take a good look around. Recently completed renovations have improved the functionality of the space while restoring its original beauty. In fact, with the addition of a visually stunning pipe organ in the balcony (see p. 11), Alumni Hall looks more impressive than ever before.

But looks aren't everything, and there is another way to experience Alumni Hall. When you visit, pause for a moment, close your eyes and try to imagine how it would feel to be present at some of the events that have spanned the past 80 years in the same spot where you are standing. Here are some prompts for your Alumni Hall reveries.

**Dancing the Night Away**

It's 1936 and Alumni Hall is filled with the sounds of Blanche Calloway and her Harlem Band. Look around and you'll see men and women dancing to the swing tunes of one of the era's jazz bands. In the years ahead, dancers would have the chance to see some of the most famous musicians of that time, including Duke Ellington and Louis Armstrong.

It was preordained that Alumni Hall would be used for dances. On May 30, 1925, the committee in charge of making recommendations for the design of the union building visited the University of Michigan union. A report issued by the committee included this description of a proposed "Memorial Hall":

> This room shall combine accommodations for assembly, for lectures and concerts, banquets, and large dancing parties. The Indiana Union should copy the policy of the Michigan Union in having regular Friday night dances and Saturday night dances open to all members of the Union. For the Friday night dances, the charge at Michigan is one dollar per couple, and for Saturday night, seventy-five cents.

At a May 6, 1932 meeting of the Board of Trustees, about one month before the completed Indiana Memorial Union building
was officially dedicated, a decision was reached to change the name of the building’s grand hall. “The name ‘Memorial Hall’ is confusing because of the fact that we now have a ‘Memorial Hall’ as a girls’ dormitory,” reads a passage from the minutes of the Trustees’ meeting. “This name, ‘Alumni Hall,’ would be a fine tribute to those loyal alumni who have given so much to make this building possible.”

The hall’s name was changed, but of course this did not alter the plan for holding dances. Over the years, every conceivable excuse has been used to hold a dance in Alumni Hall. There was the Annual Yuletide Hop, the Home Economics Gingerbread Jump, the Sophomore Cotillion, the Junior Prom and the First Fling. The second Union Board Biennial in 1937 featured a Blanket Hop. There were military dances during World War II, and when the disco craze hit its peak in the late 70s, Union Board’s Club Lautrec was forced to move out of the Frangipani Room to the larger accommodations of Alumni Hall.

As you stand there with your eyes closed, imagine this: the pulsating beat of a Donna Summer hit is blaring through the loudspeakers, the bubble machine is working overtime, a huge disco ball hanging from the ceiling is creating spots of light that weave hypnotically throughout the Hall, and everyone around you is dressed like John Travolta and his dance partners from “Saturday Night Fever.”

CELEBRATING AND REVELING

Now take yourself back to a time when former UB director Paul McNutt is governor of Indiana and Bo McMillan is the football coach. It’s November 21, 1936 and you’re witnessing the third annual football dinner. According to an IDS article from that time, the dinner is being held to honor Coach McMillan and “his student gridmen.” Joining McNutt and students at the dinner are “men ranking high in University athletic circles and prominent sports writers in the Midwest.”

Dinners, banquets, weddings, receptions, charity balls, induction ceremonies—Alumni Hall has hosted them all and more. If you attend many of these over the years, specific memories of any one event may get lost in the mix. For example, perhaps you remember seeing John Mellencamp show up at a banquet briefly to receive an award, but you can’t quite connect this memory to the event taking place. (For the record, that occurred at the UB Centennial Banquet on October 31, 2009.)

Yet there is one banquet tradition that is remembered well by all who have ever had the good fortune to experience it, and no venue could be better suited for this event than Alumni Hall. Take a moment and imagine that it’s December and the holiday season is upon us. Place yourself at a banquet table and as you glance around, it appears that you are in the great hall of a medieval English castle that has been decorated for a feast.

Servers in period costume bring you hot, steaming wassail and a hearty meal, with flaming plum pudding for dessert. Costumed singers and musicians from the Jacobs School of Music provide the music that ensures you truly feel transported to another place and time. Join the revelry, because you’re at one of the fabled Madrigal Dinners!

The Madrigal Dinners, which started in 1947 as collaboration between music school choral director Wayne Hugobloom and IMU manager Lyman Smith, graced the Hall for over 50 years. The seasonal feasts at IU served as the model for similar events at college campuses and other venues around the country. For many members of the Bloomington community, nothing is more closely associated with Alumni Hall than this cherished tradition.

ALUMNI HALL THROUGH THE YEARS

Since the opening of Alumni Hall, Union Board has sponsored over 600 events. Many other events have been held at Alumni Hall, including IU sponsored and community sponsored events, as well as weddings, receptions, dinners and parties. Here are just a few that have happened since its opening.
GETTING AN EDUCATION

Dancing and celebrating are all fine and good, but let’s not forget that Alumni Hall is located at the heart of an institution of learning, so this must also be a place where educational events are held. One way that occurs is through lectures, and there is a long and illustrious list of famous people who have been at Alumni Hall. Pause for a moment and think about what you might have heard from Nobel Prize-winning novelist Pearl S. Buck, film producer Otto Preminger, feminist author Kate Millet, IU basketball coach Bobby Knight, IU alum and former CIA director Robert Gates, sex advice columnist Dan Savage, or “Doonesbury” cartoonist Garry Trudeau.

Events that expanded awareness came in multiple formats and addressed topics both global and local. Some presentations were about subjects of grave importance. In the mid-20th-century days of Cold War nuclear holocaust fears, Alumni Hall showed a group of films under the banner of “Atomic Energy, One World or None, Brotherhood of Man.” In 2004, the AIDS Memorial Quilt was put on display.

Other presentations offered lighter fare. In March of 1951, the highlight of an “Easter Parade” celebration at the Union was a style show in Alumni Hall. An IDS article tells us that a “bevy of campus models showed Spring fashions” on a stage decorated with flowers, greenery and a flowing fountain. There have also been art exhibits, and one of the more recent traditions that has become highly popular is the IU World’s Fare, where Alumni Hall is transformed into an international bazaar. Through dance, clothing, music, games, art and especially food, everyone who attends is carried to spots all over the globe.

OFFERING ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING

Indiana has the ball on Iowa’s 5-yard line. It’s fourth down. The game is tied at 7-all. You’re on the edge of your seat. Only thing is, if this is 70 years ago, your seat might well be in Alumni Hall. The Union arranged to get ongoing reports telegraphed from IU football games that were played away. A “grid-graph” was placed on the Alumni Hall stage and fans could gather to follow the game together as information came in over the wires.

This is just one example of the astounding variety of ways Alumni Hall has been used to entertain, educate and celebrate. There have been activities fairs, flea markets, professional billiard demonstrations, children’s parties, plays and musicals, laser music spectacles, Metropolitan Opera receptions, Christmas celebrations with Herman Wells dressed up as Santa Claus, talent shows, rap concerts, professional dance performances, wedding receptions, and classical music concerts.

READY TO MAKE MORE HISTORY

Alumni Hall first opened in 1932 and the Solarium was added in 1961. The renovations just completed expand the Hall’s capabilities to handle a wide array of events. With improved lighting, a new sound system, much greater ease of access to electric and electronic outlets, users of the space will notice a difference. Handicapped accessibility has been improved with the installation of a new ramp at the South entrance to the IMU plus two new unisex, handicapped-accessible restrooms just outside the Hall. A new surface has been installed on the terrace outside the Solarium, which means that the use of open-air space can be part of events now.

These changes, along with the new organ, will ensure that the space will continue generating a colorful history well into the future. In a manner similar to Union Board, Alumni Hall repeatedly adapts to accommodate the ever evolving needs of the campus and the community. Viewed collectively, all of the Alumni Hall events from the past 80 years create a mosaic that tells many stories about both IU and the world at large. It will be fascinating to see how that mosaic changes in the years ahead.

An IU football game grid-graph in the 1940s

Easter Parade and Fashion Show
March 14, 1951

Dave Brubeck Concert
Sept. 15, 1965

Activities Fair
Sept. 10, 1969

F. Lee Bailey Dinner and Lecture
Nov. 10, 1968

Mardi Gras Dance with Duke Ellington
Feb. 10, 1956

Madrigal Dinner
Dec. 11, 1949

Senator George McGovern
Feb. 8, 1970

Club Lautrec Discotheque
July 11, 1980

One of the grandest student union buildings in the world has just become grander. The recent renovations to the IMU’s Alumni Hall include the installation of Opus 91, a remarkable organ made by C.B. Fisk, Inc. According to Jacobs School of Music Organ Curator David Kazimir, C.B. Fisk is the foremost organ builder in the country, and IU’s acquisition of this organ is a stunning development, not only for music students, but for the entire campus and community. “We’re thrilled at the opportunity to have such a historic space to be the home of such an amazing organ,” Kazimir said.

Alumni Hall’s new crown jewel was built in 1987 and commissioned by the late Jacques Littlefield, an organist and patron of the arts who lived in California. The organ was originally installed in a specially constructed concert hall next to his house. Littlefield was drawn to French Baroque organs of the 18th and early 19th centuries, both in terms of the sound and the case design, so designers from Fisk traveled with him to conduct research in northern Europe, particularly in the Alsace region of France.

The organ, which has been installed in the Alumni Hall balcony, will be used for concerts, teaching, special events and ceremonies. “Opus 91 is flexible enough to meet everyone’s needs,” Kazimir said. “It’s not completely French Baroque, but you can play French Baroque music on it and it will come very close to approximating the glory of that period of organ building.”

Even without making a sound, the organ gives the already regal hall a distinctly heightened sense of majesty. The instrument’s 2,838 pipes are housed in a case of solid quarter-sawn white oak that C.B. Fisk calls “the most challenging woodworking ever accomplished by our firm.” Decorative carvings in solid black walnut by sculptor Morgan Faulds Pike adorn the case, and the overall effect is genuinely breathtaking. Kazimir regards it as “one of the most beautiful cases that Fisk has ever built.”

When the organ is played, the sound in Alumni Hall is expected to be excellent. “The acoustics have turned out beautifully,” Kazimir said. Professional acoustician David Wright, who graduated from IU, has analyzed and adjusted the acoustics. “One of David’s senior projects was to measure the acoustics at Alumni Hall,” Kazimir said, “so he’s got a depth of understanding about the space.”

There was some concern that efforts to help Alumni Hall handle other events acoustically may run counter to the acoustic needs for the organ. For example, Alumni Hall has new oak paneling on the walls, and there is a sound-attenuating cloth installed behind the panels. This cloth reduces the high frequency ring associated with the sounds from people speaking through microphones and it could potentially dampen the sounds from the organ. Luckily, that is not the case. “If the organ is played when the Hall is empty, for about two seconds there’s this wonderful halo of the organ’s sounds,” Kazimir said. “We couldn’t be happier about that.”

At the rededication of the renovated Alumni Hall on June 7, 2013, the organ was renamed as the Webb-Ehrlich Great Organ of Alumni Hall. The organ was named in honor of IU President Emeritus Thomas Ehrlich and Charles H. Webb, dean emeritus of the IU Jacobs School of Music. The first public performance of the new organ will be at the start of a four-day conference hosted by the Jacobs School of Music to celebrate the organ. On Sunday, September 15 at 8:00 p.m., both current and emeritus faculty of the organ department will play a grand recital to herald the arrival of the organ. The theme of the conference is “The Organ at the Crossroads.”

The reference to crossroads has two meanings. “This organ was influenced by French Baroque instruments that turned into more Romantic instruments, so we’re celebrating that crossroads of development and repertoire,” Kazimir said. “We’re also celebrating the organ’s new location. It’s at the crossroads of the campus, and it’s presence here will be enjoyed by both the musicians and the general public. These are all great things to honor at this conference.”
One of the questions that we ask over and over to guide our management of the IMU is this: How do we convey to people that the IMU’s doors are open for everyone? Here are some of the actions we are taking now to ensure that the entire campus community feels at home in the Union.

**International students**

A survey from three years ago revealed that a large percentage of international students has very positive feelings about spending time at the IMU. Our response was not, “Okay, we’ve got that group covered.” Instead, we started asking, “How can we build on that? What programs and services will bring in even more international students?”

In looking at this, one focal point is the Back Alley. Usage has been up over the past year, particularly among international students. Since the summer of 2012, these students no longer have the Leo R. Dowling International Center as a gathering space, so we started meeting with the staff from the Office of International Services to discuss possible ways that we could help, and the Back Alley came up. The Dowling Center had board games from around the world that international students could check out and use at the Center. We've moved those games to the Back Alley.

We’ve also initiated a regular series of concerts in the Dunn Meadow Café that are performed by international students, and we’re continuing to look at other ideas. For example, the decorations on the walls can send a message. We’re looking at displaying a range of international flags in the new Back Alley lounge to help students from around the world feel more at home there.

**Service learning activities**

Another segment of the campus community that we are working with is people engaged in service learning. We are working with Service Learning Program Director Nicole Schonemann to make the IMU a hub for service learning activities. Service learning groups can have organizational meetings here, and if a group of students is going to get together and go as a group to a volunteer site, they can gather here first.

**Incoming students**

We want every incoming student to be familiar with all that the IMU has to offer, but that’s a tall order. Freshmen have so much to learn about the entire campus and college experience. The IMU is only one small piece of the puzzle, but we are looking for ways to get our message across.

Two new programs have recently been added. All of the Admissions Office Red Carpet Days now start in the Whittenberger Auditorium. Over 5,000 prospective future Hooiers attended this year’s program. Also, the First Year Experience staff suggested the idea of using the Back Alley as a location for training activities for the students in charge of helping groups of freshmen learn about IU. I think this is a great idea. It allows us to reach thousands of incoming students through the leaders of the First Year Experience program. If these leaders have a good impression of the Back Alley, they’ll share that with the new students.

**IU Outdoor Adventures**

Outdoor Adventures (IUOA) is still very much a part of the Union’s mission to unite the campus, even though the organization now operates out of Eigenmann Hall. We recognize that African-Americans, Latinos and Asians are underrepresented in terms of participation in IUOA activities. In response to this, we’re working with the IUOA staff to create an event this fall that will feature a showing of the film, “The Way Home.” This film features National Park Service Ranger Shelton Johnson, who is an advocate for bringing minorities to national parks and helping them connect to the natural world.

This is some of the work we are doing right now. We’re encouraged by the response we’ve gotten so far, and it motivates us to keep pushing forward.

One final note—you may have read in the last issue of the newsletter about plans to display portraits of historic IU women in the East Lounge. These works of art are now in place and the collection is impressive. I’m sure you’ll agree when you see it. This is one more example of our efforts to make sure everyone feels welcomed by the spaces we create within the Union.
The East Lounge of the Indiana Memorial Union is now home to the Women of Indiana art exhibit. The exhibit features 15 paintings of women who have had an impact and deep connection with Indiana University. Their work has not only been recognized by Indiana University, but both nationally and internationally.

The exhibition is anchored with the portrait of Nobel Prize winner and IU Distinguished Professor Elinor “Lin” Ostrom, painted by retired IU Professor of Fine Arts Bonnie Sklarski. This portrait will remain on permanent display in the East Lounge. Some of the other portraits are on loan for a year. The exhibition will continue to evolve with new portraits and art by the women of IU.

Another part of the exhibition will be the display of the painting *Alma Mater* by American painter Edwin Howland Blashfield. *Alma Mater*, the angelic countenance at the center of this canvas, is robed in the blue and gold colors of the State of Indiana while a dragon at her feet, representing the spirit of barbarism, devours books. Above her head are swirling angelic figures. A young man with a half-drawn sword is depicted in the lower-left quadrant of this work. The painting was commissioned by IU President William Lowe Bryan and his wife, Charlotte Lowe Bryan. The canvas was presented to the university at the June 1924 Commencement and was the subject of President Bryan’s Commencement oration.

Rounding out the exhibition with a splash of color and shape is Somersault by IU Professor of Fine Arts Martha Macleish.

The Women of Indiana exhibit replaces the portraits of IU’s 17 former presidents. The former presidents portraits have been relocated to the newly created ‘Hall of Presidents’ in Franklin Hall.

### The Exhibit

#### Portraits
- Elinor Ostrom, winner of the Nobel Prize in Economics  
- Betty (Blumberg Polley) Foster, former Indiana University Trustee  
- Pat Ryan, former Indiana University First Lady and IU alumna  
- Agnes Wells, mother of legendary IU President and, later, Chancellor Herman B Wells  
- Kate Milner Rabb, early 20th-century columnist for The Indianapolis Star  
- Adelheid Gealt, IU Art Museum director and art historian  
- Frances Marshall, first African American woman to graduate from IU (in 1919)  
- Charlotte Lowe Bryan, former Indiana University First Lady and IU alumna  
- Grace Showalter, the first woman elected to the IU Foundation board of directors and generous supporter of IU projects  
- Alice Nelson, Indiana University’s first director of the Halls of Residence  
- Nellie Showers Teter, the first woman to serve on the IU Board of Trustees

#### Other works
- *Alma Mater* by Edwin Howland Blashfield  
- Somersault by Martha Macleish
Sunday, October 1, 1972 was a good day for sailing on Lake Lemon. We know this from the minutes of the Union Board meeting that took place Wednesday of that week. Carol Payne, who directed the Outdoor Recreation committee at that time reported to the Board that the Sunday sailing expedition had been a success. From our perspective four decades later we also know that through the work of that committee, UB was planting a seed that would grow steadily over the years to become the popular student activity program known today as IU Outdoor Adventures (IUOA).

The program’s expansion has been striking. At the beginning, trips were offered, but only to local destinations, and camping equipment was available for a rental fee, but the selection was somewhat meager. Today students can select trips that involve mountain biking, backpacking, climbing, hiking, canoeing or rafting. Trips range in length from a single day to a few weeks. Recent trips have included sea kayaking in Florida’s Everglades, rafting in North Carolina, backpacking in Utah and whitewater canoeing on the Rio Grande.

Rental equipment now includes backpacks, kayaks, stand-up paddleboards, mountain bikes and almost any type of equipment needed for outdoor activities.

IUOA also partners with the School of Public Health-Bloomington to offer a collection of one and two credit hour courses designed to teach outdoor recreation skills, such as whitewater rafting, backpacking, ice climbing, wilderness survival, rock climbing and kayaking. Most classes consist of three classroom sessions and a weekend of field experience, while others are conducted during an eight-week block.

IUOA, which was once known as IMU Outfitters, moved out of the IMU in 2010 to a larger space in Eigenmann Hall that gives the organization some much needed breathing space. "It’s made a world of difference," IUOA coordinator Dustin Smucker said. "We can help people get organized and loaded for trips much more efficiently here in Eigenmann.” On top of that, there’s a new bouldering wall, the first indoor climbing facility on campus. The bouldering wall provides another way for IUOA to connect to students and it gives them a fun activity to pursue, regardless of the weather outside.

Although IUOA has moved, the organization continues to hold firm to its historical foundation as a student leadership program of the IMU. “If students are interested in participating as a trip leader, they’ll enroll in the Introduction to Wilderness Leadership class,” Smucker said. “Outdoor Adventures provides a whole spectrum of commitment levels for students to get involved in the outdoors. Most significantly, I think students learn about themselves by going through these adventures.”

Forty years ago, UB directors initiated a new attempt to serve the needs of students on the Bloomington campus. The result is an organization today that helps students have a great time outdoors, but it offers more than that. IUOA also gives people the opportunity to learn how to lead and how to work collaboratively. These are classic traits of Union Board.
1: A student studies in the South Lounge toward the end of the spring semester.

2: Two workers finish placing one of the two statues on either side of the organ in Alumni Hall. Photo by Scott Scheetz.

3: A woman stops on the stairs to observe the painting of Frances Marshall, the first African American female graduate of IU, at the Women of Indiana University reception.

4: A guest at the Women of Indiana University reception looks at the portrait of Elinor Ostrom in the East Lounge.

5: Canvas Creative Arts Director Grace Miller and Canvas Magazine Editor Dianne Osland hold Canvas Magazine's Literary Magazine of the Year award from the Indiana Collegiate Press Association.
John Whittenberger Society
Union Board Alumni News Fall 2013

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Dear Friends,

What have YOU been up to since leaving IU and Union Board? Please print as much of the following information as you wish. Updates are used in class notes or for Alumni Spotlights.

Email jws1909@indiana.edu or mail to:
John Whittenberger Society
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Bloomington, IN 47405

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Preferred Name __________________________________________
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IU Degree(s)/Yrs(s) __________________________________________
University ID # (People Soft) or last four SS # __________
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* Home Email __________________________________________
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