

John Whittenberger Society

UNION BOARD ALUMNI NEWS | SPRING/SUMMER 2017

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS. THIS PUBLICATION IS PAID FOR BY THE JOHN WHITTENBERGER SOCIETY



A Message from the **JWS PRESIDENT**



The year is flying by! Soon it will be time for our 40th Biennial Reunion Weekend, Oct. 20–22. Plans are in the works to make this a special weekend for all who attend. More details will be announced soon through email, the IMU's website, and the JWS Facebook and LinkedIn accounts. We hope you will plan to attend.

The 2017 Union Board of Director's Installation was held on Jan. 21. Yet again, the IMU welcomes a group of talented and resourceful student leaders as Union Board Directors. You will find the names of the new directors along with their role in Union Board later in this issue. It's always a pleasure to return to campus, meet with the new directors, and learn how they plan to fulfill the mission of Union Board.

Many exciting things have been happening at the Indiana Memorial Union. In April 2017, all 189 rooms in the Biddle hotel will be completely renovated. The feature story in this issue provides more detailed information, as well as photos of the new rooms. I know I will be excited to stay in one of the new rooms when JWS holds its board meeting at the IMU in April.

Additionally, new furniture has been added to some of the building's main areas with plans for more to come. Don't worry, the couches will still be there for students to sleep on! Hank Walter, IMU Executive Director, will provide us with more details of the building improvements in October.

I would like to welcome Martin Gimenez (UB 2001) as a voting member to the JWS board of directors and Atticus Westerfeld (UB 2005), who replaces

Cathy Deal (UB 1969-70), as an ex-officio member of the board and as the alumni representative to Union Board. A huge thank you to Cathy Deal for her time and contribution to both JWS and Union Board.

There are many exciting events on the horizon for JWS and we are always planning ways to build upon our strengths as a group. We welcome your suggestions and ideas; don't hesitate to contact one of the board members to share your comments.

Stay connected!

Facebook and LinkedIn: If you are not part of our JWS Social Network Facebook or LinkedIn page, join us! This is a great opportunity to learn about events, keep in touch with former board members, post news updates from your world, and more.

Update your profile: Our alumni network is only as strong as those who participate in it! If your information is not updated, it's difficult for us to keep you informed about events and news. Please contact jws1909@indiana.edu with updates to your IU Alumni Association profile, or complete the form on the back page of the newsletter and mail it in.

Warm Regards,

Christian Carroll (UB '90)

President

The John Whittenberger Society

jws1909@indiana.edu



IMU STAFF CHANGES

NEW STAFF/POSITIONS

Josh Caldwell, Events Manager, Meeting & Event Services

Mara Dahlgren, Assistant Director, Activities and Events

Kaila Messerli, Program Coordinator, Activities and Events

Meagan Need, Hotel Manager, Biddle Hotel

Jesse White, Evening Supervisor, Bowling & Billiards

RETIREMENTS

Anita Douglas, Assistant Director, Administrative Services

Kathryn Mullins, Housekeeper

Table of CONTENTS

A Message from the JWS President	2
IMU Staff Changes	3
Awards	3
Union Board Leadership	4
Biddle Hotel Renovation Bolsters Amenities, Hoosier Pride	6
Alumni Spotlight	10
Scholarship Spotlight	11

AWARDS

Robert McDonnell (UB '89, '90), KCET Associate Producer, recently won his third Emmy (Los Angeles Area Emmy Awards).

Two IMU staff members received awards at the 2016 NACAS Annual Conference held in Indianapolis. **Hollie Lutz**, Assistant Director, Meeting & Event Services, received the Central Region Rising Star Award and **Cheryl Crouch**, Assistant Director, Marketing and Communications, received the Robert F. Newton Award for Distinguished Service.

Mara Dahlgren, Assistant Director, Activities and Events, was recognized during the 2017 ACUI Annual Conference in Philadelphia. She received the Richard D. Blackburn New Professional Award.

Mark Guthier, former Assistant Director, IMU, received the ACUI Butts-Whiting Award, recognizing and honoring outstanding leaders in ACUI who have made significant contributions to the college union and student activities movement and whose accomplishments and careers are a credit to ACUI.

SAVE the

DATE

APRIL 19, 2017

IU DAY

In 2016, 34 donors contributed \$2,725 to the John Whittenberger Society!

OCTOBER 20-22, 2017

40TH UNION BOARD BIENNIAL WEEKEND

A weekend to share, remember, and celebrate your involvement in Union Board

Check out the IMU's new website!

More user-friendly, especially on mobile
imu.indiana.edu

UNION BOARD *Leadership*



Back row, left to right: Josh Thomas, Mark Matsuki, Matt Steinman, Ryan Lampe, Chase Hammerstrom, and Jermaine Williams. Middle row, left to right: Thao Nguyen, Ceci Jerry, Snow Yin, Yasmine Raouf, DaAsia Johnson, and Sam Beck. Front row, left to right: Taylor Harris, Beth Nethery, Emily Carr, and Maggie Gomez.

JOSH THOMAS

POSITION: President

HOMETOWN: South Bend, IN

MAJOR: Marketing and Business Analytics

RYAN LAMPE

POSITION: VP Marketing

HOMETOWN: Carmel, IN

MAJOR: Marketing and Management

BETH NETHERY

POSITION: VP Internal Affairs

HOMETOWN: Bloomington, IN

MAJOR: Tourism, Hospitality and Event Management

SNOW YIN

POSITION: VP Finance

HOMETOWN: Beijing, China

MAJOR: Finance

UNION BOARD *Leadership*



From left: Passing of the gavel, swearing in of the new board, and the dinner crowd.

SAM BECK

POSITION: Performance & Entertainment
HOMETOWN: Carmel, IN
MAJOR: Accounting and Finance

EMILY CARR

POSITION: Fun & Adventure
HOMETOWN: Fort Wayne, IN
MAJOR: Marketing and Management

MAGGIE GOMEZ

POSITION: Canvas Creative Arts
HOMETOWN: Hinsdale, IL
MAJOR: Public Relations

CHASE HAMMERSTROM

POSITION: Films
HOMETOWN: Fishers, IN
MAJOR: Biology, Chemistry and German

TAYLOR HARRIS

POSITION: Late Nite
HOMETOWN: Indianapolis, IN
MAJOR: Human Development and Family Studies

CECI JERRY

POSITION: Campus Unity
HOMETOWN: Merrillville, IN
MAJOR: Exercise Science

DAASIA JOHNSON

POSITION: Body & Mind
HOMETOWN: Indianapolis, IN
MAJOR: Biology

MARK MATSUKI

POSITION: Music
HOMETOWN: Carmel, IN
MAJOR: International Business

THAO NGUYEN

POSITION: Spirit & Traditions
HOMETOWN: Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
MAJOR: Information systems and business analytics

YASMINE RAOUF

POSITION: Speakers & Lectures
HOMETOWN: Mobile, AL
MAJOR: Arts Management and Pre-Law

MATT STEINMANN

POSITION: Live From Bloomington
HOMETOWN: Calabasas, CA
MAJOR: Marketing and Management

JERMAINE WILLIAMS JR.

POSITION: Current Topics
HOMETOWN: Indianapolis, IN
MAJOR: Informatics



Biddle Hotel Renovation Bolsters Amenities, Hoosier Pride

BY BRANDT JOHNSON

Often the face of Indiana University–Bloomington for new and returning visitors, the Indiana Memorial Union Biddle Hotel and Conference Center carries the ever-important responsibility of making a positive impression through its service, amenities, and showcase of Hoosier culture. Having last seen a major renovation in 1994 and with accumulating reports of issues such as confining bathrooms and difficult access to electrical outlets throughout the room, it was time for the hotel—built in 1960—to renovate its 189 guest rooms and realign with present standards of hospitality.

According to Mike Campbell, associate director of the IMU, on average hotels undergo substantial renovation every seven years to stay competitive with the market and continue to meet the customer's variety of needs. However, it has been two decades since the Biddle Hotel's last facelift and proximate competing hotels are new or recently remodeled, effectively signaling a renovation was overdue.

The university's Board of Trustees unanimously approved the hotel project in April 2015 along with three others: the three-story Paul H. O'Neill Graduate Center addition to the School of Public and Environmental Affairs, a new 125,000-square-foot building for the School of Informatics and Computing, and the renovation and repurposing of Memorial Hall and Goodbody Hall in Well Quad from academic space to student housing. All four constructions are expected to be completed by December 2017, though the IMU staff is confident the entire hotel will be completed by Spring Graduation.

An \$8 million project, roughly half of the funding came through the university and half through the IMU's capital improvement fund and operational capital savings. The IMU is funded largely through its own revenues, more than half of which is generated by the hotel.

What is being renovated?

While nearly every facet of the guest room will be upgraded, the design team wanted to maintain the classic and clean design. The guiding principle of the project's style and material choices was to become current but not "trendy."

"The idea was 10 years from now when you look at [the room's design and amenities], it's not 'Oh, that's from ...' but it can last a while," said Hank Walter, executive director of the Indiana Memorial Union. "That was a hard line to walk: classic and timeless but also feeling fresh and not like it's from an older era that's already gone by."

The IMU Executive Team engaged with the University Architect's Office, led by Michele Bucklin, who served as the principal designer. They also brought in CSO Architects, which codesigned the JW Marriott in downtown Indianapolis, to help assess what the union could and couldn't do within the space and budget.

THE BEDROOM

One of the prime objectives of the renovation was to enhance "the feel of the room." Not only were outdated furniture and other furnishings starting to show their age, they also didn't complement each other spatially or aesthetically. The single dark blue wall didn't coordinate well given the rest were light. Placement of certain objects like a sofa chair facing the beds as opposed to the television and the desk facing directly at the wall didn't make the most physical sense.

Campbell took a lighthearted approach in describing the room's new feel.

"The feel of the room is dramatically different," he said. "The wallcoverings, headboards—it's less like your grandmother's house, but a very clean, dark wood, elegant look."

Key improvements (not intended to reflect all):

- **Decorative furnishings:** The carpet, drapes, and wallcoverings were all replaced with a new material simple but refined in design and conscious of color coordination. Framed photos of on-campus trademarks were added to every room.
- **Furniture:** The ottoman at the foot of the bed was removed for openness and better walkability. The blue sofa chair sandwiched between the bed and inner wall was moved to the opposite side of the room near the window and replaced by a taller, red sofa chair with a footrest to offer more back support. A new wardrobe closet was added. The dresser, desk, and desk chair were replaced with new ones and rotated 90 degrees inward.

The artwork are representations of some of the hidden gems on campus

- **Mattresses:** The headboards were replaced with a more cleanly designed counterpart, and all double and queen mattresses not recently replaced were exchanged for new Serta queen mattresses.
- **Technology/Electrical:** The alarm radio was replaced with a modern version enabled with Bluetooth, and the television was upgraded from a 32" to an energy-efficient 43". The refrigerators were also replaced with contemporary, energy-efficient versions. Electrical outlets have been reconfigured for greater access. All lamps were replaced with those sleeker designed, and all light bulbs throughout the bedroom and bathroom are LED.

THE BATHROOM

Among the most popular complaints from guests was the cramped feeling in the bathroom, prompting a mission for the design team to select fixtures that would make its space feel more open.

"You go to houses that were built in 1960, it's the same thing—bathrooms were built smaller," Walter said. "One of the things we

needed to do is find a way to be more efficient in the space and help it feel bigger. Some of that is fixtures like the French door that swings out; there are a lot of little things that make it feel bigger and function as if it were bigger."

Key improvements (not intended to reflect all):

- French doors substitute inward-swinging doors that hindered mobility.
- The new shower heads and toilets are rated low flow to improve water conservation.
- The newly tiled walls and floors add modern elegance.
- Improved functionality was achieved by replacing the mirror with a wooden framed, sufficiently wide mirror over the sink and a wooden rack for folded towels and accessories next to it. The rack contains a built-in electrical outlet positioned higher than the previously existing outlet.

Hoosier Pride

Perhaps the first eye-catching difference a returning visitor will notice is more pronounced Hoosier pride. The project team was careful not to boast an excessive display of trident logos and crimson, but they wanted to reinforce the Biddle Hotel's identity as "IU's hotel" and ensure university alumni will be excited and proud to stay in the union when they return to campus. They also want new visitors such as colleagues and students' parents to grasp Indiana University's traditions and offerings beyond the admissions application, IMU website, and TripAdvisor.com, as the union and hotel are where they usually go upon arrival.

When guests take the elevator up to their floor and the door opens, they first will notice a locally produced limestone block engraved with an IU trident and "Biddle Hotel Indiana Memorial Union" below it. The new hallway carpet prominently features the iconic script "Indiana" in its pattern. The Hoosier pride continues when guests enter their room and immediately notice an embroidered crimson stretch pillow on both beds as well as the aforementioned framed artworks of campus hallmarks.

"The artwork are representations of some of the hidden gems on campus: the crimson clock towers, Sample Gates, the bronze statues," Campbell noted. "As you walk through campus, you'll look and go 'Was that the place I saw in my room?' Or when you get back to your room, 'You know, I saw that today as we were going through campus.'"



Opportunity to Support the Community

Of course there had to be an exit plan for the numerous replaced furniture and furnishings. After Campbell was able to determine they were no longer of quality to be sold, he contacted the St. Vincent de Paul local chapter and Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County to see if the organizations were interested in donations. Both were much obliged.

To Campbell's knowledge, St. Vincent de Paul is the only entity in Bloomington that accepts mattress donations. The volunteer organization obtained headboards and approximately 90 adequate beds, which will be distributed free of charge to those in need.

The Habitat ReStore, where donations are repaired and sold to raise funds for the Habitat for Humanity's mission, received desks, desk chairs, mirrors, nightstands, armoires, headboards, ottomans, soft cushioned chairs, lamps, and shelves. It is the largest donation in the Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County's history.

"Profits from the sale of the items donated by the IMU Biddle Hotel go directly towards the mission of Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County: to eliminate poverty housing by building simple, decent, affordable homes in partnership with qualifying families," said IU alumna Allison Hess, director of marketing and communications for Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County.

The IMU and Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County staff are organizing the details of a volunteer build day on a future ReStore-sponsored home for later in the spring.

"The support of the Biddle Hotel is helping the Habitat

ReStore to reach our next sponsorship, and having the IMU staff involved in the build would provide a meaningful experience for their team to see what this incredibly generous donation has helped to accomplish," said IU alumnus Marc Papier, ReStore manager. "It is ReStore's No. 1 priority to sponsor homes, and having businesses like the IMU Biddle Hotel on board to support this goal is instrumental to our success."

Clean the World

Though it doesn't particularly play a part in the renovation, the union's recent decision to begin collecting and donating partially used soap and other bath amenities to Clean the World, an Orlando-based nonprofit organization, aligns with the greater attention on more efficient, environmentally conscious operations. Rather than see discarded soap and various hygiene products go to waste in a landfill, Clean the World distributes donated products to individuals living in poverty or who struggle to meet basic hygiene needs.

"Bars of soap get used once and typically get thrown in a landfill—same with shampoos and things of that nature," Campbell said. "Clean the World allows us to take that material and repurpose it just like we're doing with Habitat ReStore. It's collected and shipped to Clean the World in Florida. They sanitize it and reformulate the bars. We divert about 3,500–4,000 pounds annually that would have typically gone in a landfill."

For the latest news, development updates, and photos of the IMU Biddle Hotel renovation, follow the Indiana Memorial Union on Facebook and Twitter @OfficialIMU.

JERALD HARKNESS *CEO, JTM Media*



An Indianapolis native, Jerald Harkness has taken his love for film and produced a number of award-winning documentaries. He credits his career as starting when he entered the Frangipani Room in the Indiana Memorial Union and signed up for the Video Concepts Union Board group in the early 1990s.

“My sophomore year I was really trying to find a way to fit in,” Harkness said. “I was looking for ways to get involved and find experience in production.”

Harkness quickly became vice president of the group “because there were no other people there.” In 1992, while serving on the Video Concepts leadership, Harkness produced his first documentary, *Steppin’*. Filmed on the IU campus, *Steppin’* focuses on step shows’ evolution into an African-American art form and the cultural roots that stem from traditional African dancing, military marching, and contemporary hip-hop music.

“That was the first time I really worked on something original,” Harkness said. “It was my first professional project. The first version I did for Union Board.” Harkness later edited the first version of *Steppin’*, and it won the 1992 National Educational Gold Apple Award and the 1994 Pan African People’s Choice Award.

The documentary was shown for the first time in the Whittenberger Auditorium. Harkness remembers that Kappa Alpha Psi members “just lost their mind.”

“I think it played very well because it was one of the first representations where blacks from my generation saw themselves in a film like that,” Harkness said. “It really played like a live concert. I think a lot of that was pretty original at that time.”

Harkness also produced short videos for Union Board TV (UBTV). One time, he posted a video called Uranus based on an experience he had in astronomy class. “Before I wanted to be a serious documentarian

I was a silly kid making silly videos,” Harkness said. “It was a great experience for me to learn how to do everything.”

However, even in those early days, others recognized his leadership. While on UB, Harkness was also asked to sit on the Board of Aeons, a prestigious 12-member advisory group to the university president and chancellor. After graduating from IU, Harkness had partnered with local businessmen to start Visionary Productions. By 1994, the Indianapolis Business Journal had selected to feature him in its “40 under 40” edition, and the Indianapolis Recorder followed suit in 1997 with its “30 under 30.”

Now, Harkness is the CEO of JTM Media, a company that specializes in the development and production of original shows for the web and global broadcast outlets. He also recently partnered with Bob Massie to launch Naptown Media. Harkness said they’re “looking to create original content and license it in the marketplace.”

Choosing a favorite production he’s worked on is something Harkness can’t do. “I’m just grateful for the experience I’ve got on each of them,” Harkness said. “Usually you get to enter another world and chronicle a story in an interesting and entertaining way.”

Looking back on his time with UB, Harkness calls it “the most important experience in college” for him and appreciated the opportunity to work with “some amazing people.” If he hadn’t signed up for Video Concepts, then he “wouldn’t have been able to do *Steppin’* at a young age.”

JACQUELINE BALES (UB '13, '14, '15)

ROSEMARY V. TANNER SCHOLARSHIP

Jacqueline Bales (UB '13-'15) BA '16 sneaked into her first Union Board event before she was even in college. The event was a de-stress fest at Purdue University. "I thought I was really cool sneaking in as a high school student," Bales said. She became hooked instantly and "had to be involved." Once Bales transferred to IU, she continued her involvement with Union Board and took a position as the director of Fun and Entertainment. She didn't expect to get an executive role in her second term, but was "really excited by the potential in that position."

"Just the excitement of being able to take that role and try seven or nine programs and if two of them worked, then that was enough of a success," Bales said. "Then when the opportunity presented itself to join the board again I ran for all the positions."

She became vice president of Internal Affairs in 2014 and president of the 106th Indiana Memorial Union Board.

In both 2014 and 2015, Bales received the Rosemary V. Tanner Scholarship, awarded annually to the two most outstanding women directors of Union Board. These women must exemplify the standard set by Tanner, including "inspiring leadership on the Union Board of Directors and civic affairs, active involvement in community service, excellence in scholarship, and enthusiastic support of the goals of the Union Board and Indiana Memorial Union."

"It was just such an honor that she and the committee were able to see those qualities in me," Bales said. "It was a huge compliment, and getting the scholarship in [Tanner's] name is the most exciting one to get, to me, because I strongly believe in those values as well."

The two years Bales received the award are now two years of school she doesn't have debt from. "I felt guilt-free jumping into being on Union Board,"

Bales said. "I would spend up to 60 hours a week in that office not doing just work but socializing with other directors. I probably couldn't have been able to be involved at that level if it weren't for the Rosemary V. Tanner Scholarship. That is a lot of money, and I would've had to be at work for a longer time. It was two of the most involved years I was on the board."

Becoming a part of Union Board has made a lasting impact on Bales in other ways.

On the first evening of the 2016 biennial reunion, Bales walked up to Sue Holliday Milliman who was gazing at the plaque of past presidents. "I commented that I can be in her shoes 50 years from now," Bales said. "She remarked that once I've been in her shoes we will mark 100 years [of Union Board women presidents]." The next night Bales presented Milliman with a 1965 Arbutus yearbook signed by all current UB members.

"She had me help her open it and she told that little story to the crowd," Bales said. "She had everybody smiling and tearing up in the room. That was really special, and I don't think I'll ever forget that."

More recently, alumnus Michael Gosman (UB '99-'00; BA '01) invited Bales to Milwaukee to interview with his colleagues. "I hope someday I can be the Rosemary Tanner who empowered some students to be at their office 60 hours a week and really be involved in such a wonderful extracurricular," Bales said. "I also hope to be that guiding Mike Gosman, who invites students to come and interview with all my cohorts."

Bales has come a long way since sneaking into her first Union Board event as a high school student. "There have been some really impactful people in the Whittenberger society," Bales said. "It's been so amazing getting to know them and I can only hope I can do one of those things for somebody someday."



John Whittenberger Society Board

President: Christian Carroll (UB 1990)

Vice President: Ann Fumarolo (UB 1974–75)

Secretary/Treasurer: Andrew Dahlen (UB 2008, 2009)

Board members

Susan Burns (UB 1971–72)

Kathy Cook (UB 2008)

Megan Ditton (UB 1996–97)

Michael Littenberg (UB 1985–87)

Margarette Minor (UB 1986–87)

Laura Osteen (UB 1989–90, 1990, 1991)

Martin Gimenez (UB 2001)

Scott Z. Wilson (UB 2003–04)

Ex Officio Members

Mara Dahlgren

Atticus Westerfeld (UB 2005)

Jennifer Gentry

Josh Thomas (UB 2016, 2017)

Winston Shindell

Thom Simmons

David Spencer

Hank Walter

John Whittenberger Society

Union Board Alumni News Spring/Summer 2017

Volume 38, No. 1

The John Whittenberger Society newsletter is published twice a year to encourage alumni interest and support for Indiana University.

The newsletter is paid for by the John Whittenberger Society.



jws1909@indiana.edu



www.jws.indiana.edu



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JWS Alumni

What have **YOU** been up to since leaving IU and UnionBoard?

Please print as much of the following information as you wish. Updates are used in classnotes or for Alumni Spotlights.

Email jws1909@indiana.edu or mail to:

John Whittenberger Society

IMU Union Board Office

900 E. 7th St.

Bloomington, IN 47405

Contact Information

NAME _____

DATE _____

PREFERRED NAME _____

LAST NAME WHILE AT IU. _____

IU DEGREE(S)/YRS(S) _____

UNIVERSITY ID # (PEOPLE SOFT) OR LAST FOUR SS # _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME EMAIL* _____

BUSINESS NAME _____

BUSINESS TITLE _____

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* Please indicate upper and lower case.

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