

Union Board Alumni News

JOHN WHITTENBERGER SOCIETY | FALL/WINTER 2017

THIS PUBLICATION IS PAID FOR BY THE JOHN WHITTENBERGER SOCIETY



JWS PRESIDENT



As summer comes to a close, I want to remind you that we are holding our 40th Biennial Reunion, October 20-22 in Bloomington. We have a lot of fun and exciting activities planned, and we hope you and your family can join us, reconnect with old friends, and connect with the current students on Union Board. Registration and event details can be found at imu.indiana.edu/about/jws. You also should have received information in the mail.

The John Whittenberger Society Advisory Board has been working hard to make our alumni group beneficial to both alumni and students. With every organization, it is important to adapt and evolve to continue to add value. We have been considering ways to include more members in our group, and not solely those who were directors on Union Board, but also committee members and assistant directors. We are looking at our own branding and how we are perceived by current students and future alumni; do they know us as The John Whittenberger Society or would they find us more easily if we were the Union Board Alumni Association? To address these issues we would like to change the constitution in two ways:

ARTICLE I Name Section I. The name of this organization shall be the Union Board Alumni Association. The Association is an affiliate organization of the Indiana Memorial Union and the Indiana University Alumni Association.

ARTICLE III Membership Section I. All Union Board alumni, including prior Union Board Directors, prior Union Board Assistant Directors, prior Union Board committee members, current Union Board Directors, and all Honorary Life Members are members of the Union Board Alumni Association.

This change will be voted on during the Biennial. If you have comments, please email the advisory board at JWS1909@indiana.edu.

I also want to let you know that the IMU's own Cheryl (Sanders) Crouch, who served on Union Board as the administrative representative from 1989 through 1995 and has been the director of marketing for the Indiana Memorial Union for years, retired from IU and the IMU August 4. She gave a lot of her time to helping the Advisory Board with this newsletter publication, as well as taking and publishing the minutes of our meetings. You can read more about her on page 3. Her time and ideas are appreciated, and we wish her the best in her retirement.

As always, we value your ideas and feedback, as we represent you, our cherished alumni. You can email the advisory board at JWS1909@indiana.edu.

Thank you for your support, and I look forward to seeing you at the Biennial in October.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christian Carroll".

Christian Carroll (UB 1990)
President
The John Whittenberger Society
jws1909@indiana.edu

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 1989–91)

Martín Gímenez (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

David Spencer

Hank Walter

Union Board Alumni News

John Whittenberger Society

Fall/Winter 2017

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UNION BOARD ALUMNI *Newsletter*

CROUCH RETIRES

Cheryl Crouch was hired as IU's Assistant Director of Marketing for Auxiliary Services in 1989 because of her commitment to the university as a recent alumna.

"I loved IU. ... When I asked why I was hired my boss said, 'You were so enthusiastic about IU, and we thought: "We can't let this person go!"'"

As Crouch reflected on her career, a prominent thread of her 28 years at IU was her relationships with student employees.

"I'm definitely going to miss working with students," she said. "I always liked the start of the fall semester. ... It seemed like every day there was something exciting going on."

During her tenure, Crouch has met Madeline Albright, Bob Newhart, the Dalai Lama, and many other notable figures. She also served as the alumni representative to Union Board from 1989–95 and has appreciated working with alumni through the John Whittenberger Society.

"They're so loyal to Union Board," Crouch said of alumni. "You can just tell it changed their lives, and they're really grateful to still be connected to IU. They care about what's going on with Union Board."

In addition to her years working on this newsletter, the IMU centennial in 2009 stands out as an especially memorable project.

"The fact that we had descendants of John Whittenberger here was pretty exciting. It was so well attended, and that speaks a lot to the John Whittenberger Society," she said.

In retirement, Crouch hopes to catch up on some home improvement projects and volunteer for a local organization. She's looking forward to relaxing and an upcoming trip to Yellowstone.

Thinking about what the next 28 years might hold for the organization with which she spent her career, Crouch said: "I hope the university can support the Union with getting funding for renovations. I hope the John Whittenberger Society can grow stronger—they're going in the right direction. I hope they never change Sugar & Spice. I hope the Union continues to be that place for students and alumni to make great memories. There are great things ahead; as the campus grows, they recognize the union is important. I've enjoyed working with everyone. Thanks for the honor of getting to say I was part of the IMU."



UB WELCOMES ALUM

Before graduating in 2006, Atticus Westerfeld served as Union Board Films Director, an experience that gave him a sense of place at IU.

"When I arrived on the Bloomington campus, I was eager to find a place that could shrink the campus for me," he said. "I found that place when I attended my first Union Board Films Committee meeting after visiting the club fair during welcome week."

Since then, Westerfeld has used his history degree to teach social studies at Herron High School and in 2013 became the Assistant Dean of Students and is now Director of Student Life at Herron. He says his wife, Sarah—a fellow Hoosier—was the one who encouraged him to revisit his Union Board roots by pursuing the alumni representative position.

"I developed lifelong friendships and have so many fond memories tied to IMU that I will forever be indebted to the institution," he said. "I am honored to serve on the Indiana Memorial Union Board for the second time in my life. I am eager to help this board to connect with alumni and continue the great legacy John Whittenberger began in 1909."

With this new position, Westerfeld appreciates the way his professional, family, and Union Board roles are connected. At the high school, he helps students engage in extracurricular offerings. At home, he hopes his 3-year-old and infant sons will one day get involved in clubs and organizations and "choose to attend the school that their father loves so dearly." For Union Board, he looks forward to supporting student leaders outside the classroom and to using his time to give back to IU, saying: "I will work to provide a perspective of tradition on the board as it continues to provide creative programs to anchor students to the campus and propel students to greatness."



BIENNIAL *Celebration Schedule*



2015 BIENNIAL



2015 INSTALLATION



2017 UB BOARD OF DIRECTORS



2011 PATIO DEDICATION

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2017

- 4–7 p.m. Registration
Hotel Lobby
- 5:30–9 p.m. Opening Reception
Union Board Offices
- 7–10 p.m. Dinner
Nick's English Hut
(not included in registration fee)
- 9 p.m.–1 a.m. Late Night
IMU

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2017

- 9–10 a.m. Scholarship Breakfast
Federal Room
- 10–11:30 p.m. Career Planning-Panel with Four Alumni and
Caroline Dowd-Higgins, Executive Director of Career
and Professional Development, IU Alumni Association
Georgian Room
- Noon–1:30 p.m. Opening Luncheon
Frangipani Room
- 2–5 p.m. Sundance Talk and Showing
Whittenberger Auditorium
Last Men in Aleppo
- 5–6 p.m. Reception
Federal Room
- 6–8 p.m. Dinner
Tudor Room
Provost and Executive Vice President

Lauren Robel

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2017

- 9–11 a.m. Past Presidents' Breakfast
Federal Room
- 10:30 a.m.–Noon Brunch
Tudor Room
(Not included in registration fee)

Register online at imu.indiana.edu/about/jws

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION:

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SUNDANCE COMES TO BIENNIAL

This past year, the IMU, with alumni support, was able to send Josh Thomas, Union Board President; Chase Hammerstrom, UB Films Director; Mara Dahlgren, IMU Assistant Director; and Hank Walter, IMU Executive Director, to the Sundance Film Festival.

"It was amazing," Hammerstrom said. "It was honestly one of my favorite life experiences."

The Sundance trip was possible because one couple, friends of the IMU, offered Thomas, Hammerstrom, and Dahlgren their condo in Park City, Utah, and provided tickets to the festival. The John Whittenberger Society funded the students' travel.

During the festival, Hammerstrom saw 13 films, and the team decided to screen *Last Men in Aleppo*, winner of the World Cinema Jury Prize in Documentaries, during Biennial. The film is about volunteer rescue workers preparing for a siege after five years of war in Syria. It will also be one of four Sundance films shown during the upcoming academic year, thanks to financial support from IU alumni.

The other Sundance films planned for the year will be *Nobody Speak: Trials of the Free Press*, about Hulk Hogan; *Rumble: The Indians Who Rocked the World*, about a Native American music group; and *Chasing Coral*, documenting the disappearance of the world's coral reefs.

"Films is getting back on its feet," Hammerstrom said. "For a few years, it was resigned to just the general film series, but we're kind of changing that. We're trying to develop more of a films community on campus."

In addition to the Sundance films, the Films Committee will add a new documentary series and an international film series. Additionally, Hammerstrom plans to make the general film series more engaging. He said that with the advent of Netflix and Redbox, a lot of people prefer to watch movies at home. So, he's hoping the addition of guest speakers following showings, fun facts about each movie presented beforehand, and a fun new evaluation process borrowed from Sundance will increase attendance and participation.

"I was already involved in Union Board, and going to Sundance made me more passionate and excited about next year," Hammerstrom said. "Union Board has been instrumental in my development in college. A few years ago, I would shy away from involvement. This has given me greater confidence in taking on a greater role and feeling more developed holistically. Without Union Board, I wouldn't feel as connected with the university and with other students."

CAREER PLANNING EXPERT TO SPEAK

Caroline Dowd-Higgins fell in love with performing at an early age.

After attending IU and receiving a bachelor's degree and master's degree in music, she became an opera singer. During this time, she worked from audition to audition, paycheck to paycheck.

Realizing that singing opera did not define who she was as a person, Dowd-Higgins made the decision to reinvent her career.

Today, she enjoys helping others find their desired career path, even if it's not what they're doing right now. At the 40th Biennial Reunion, Dowd-Higgins hopes to do just that by moderating a career planning panel of recent Union Board alumni on October 21.

"It will be a great opportunity to connect alumni with current students and also share some career wisdom that will help them on their career journey," Dowd-Higgins said.

Dowd-Higgins values security in her work and variety. Not only is she the Executive Director of Career and Professional Development with the IU Alumni Association, but she also writes for *The Chronicle of Higher Education* and *The Huffington Post*. Additionally, her webisode series, *Thrive!*, focuses on women and explores career, wellness, finances, and more. Her podcast, *Your Working Life*, features interviews with professionals from career, leadership, financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and wellness fields. On top of this, Dowd-Higgins still finds the time for career coaching and speaking at events.

"At events it's really cool when we get that lightbulb moment and people find something they can put into practice in their life or their career," Dowd-Higgins said. "I find that really gratifying."

With all she does, Dowd-Higgins schedules breaks and fun activities to balance her work.

"It's important for me to schedule play time as well as work time in advance," Dowd-Higgins said, "and that's a strategy I share with my alumni coaching clients as well. I think the truth is we don't always prioritize what we need to be happy and healthy in a career."

This is a point Dowd-Higgins touches on in her second book, *8 Action Steps to Finding Fulfillment in Your Workplace Now*, set to come out in 2018. The second edition of *This Is Not the Career I Ordered* was published in 2014 and contains stories of women who have reinvented their own careers and also offers steps readers can take to find their own inspiration.



SCHOLARSHIP *Spotlight*

During breakfast on October 21, Union Board alumni will recognize the accomplishments of 11 scholarship winners.

Rosemary Tanner Scholarship

The Rosemary Tanner Scholarship supports outstanding women directors of Union Board.

Tanner served on the Union Board from 1952-53 as a charter member of the first Union Board to include women directors.

2017–18 recipients (\$6,000):

Yasmine Raouf, a senior in arts management, has served Union Board since 2014 in various roles: Music Committee Member, a Films Director, and a Lectures Director. Raouf also has travelled domestically and internationally with a student organization that strives to mitigate and alleviate social issues. Now, Raouf is seeking internships outside of Bloomington and preparing for her career after college.

Ceci Jerry, a junior in exercise science, has served as Director of Campus Unity since January, after serving as Assistant Director. Already, Jerry has made a positive impact as the Outreach Director for IU's first food pantry, the Crimson Cupboard Food Pantry, for students experiencing food insecurities. In the future, she plans to pursue a graduate degree and then a career as a physical therapist.

Milton J. Fineberg Endowed Scholarship

The Milton J. "Josh" Fineberg Endowed Scholarship recognizes outstanding Union Board directors. Fineberg served with distinction as a Union Board director from 1933-36, becoming a model for leadership as Vice President and President during that time.



Josh Thomas, Milton J. Fineberg Endowed Scholarship



Yasmine Raouf, Rosemary Tanner Scholarship



Ceci Jerry, Rosemary Tanner Scholarship



Chase Hammerstrom, Eugene D. Fletchall Union Board Scholarship

2017–18 recipient (\$2,000):

Josh Thomas is a senior in marketing and business analytics in the Kelley School of Business. He will graduate in May 2018 and intends to use his degree as a marketing analyst within a corporation or market research firm. Thomas has served the Union Board since 2014 as a Committee Member, Assistant Director, Director of Spirit and Traditions, and now as President.

Eugene D. Fletchall Union Board Scholarship

The Eugene D. Fletchall Union Board served Union Board from 1932-34, as President in 1933-34, and as an alumni volunteer throughout his life. This scholarship is given to an outstanding male Union Board director who has a GPA of at least 3.5, leads with integrity, and inspires skill development in others.

2017–18 recipient (\$2,000):

Chase Hammerstrom is a senior majoring in biology and chemistry with hopes of going to medical school. He has served as a member of Current Topics, Films, and Body and Mind; Assistant Director of Films; and Summer Board Director two years in a row. Now, as Director of Films, he plans to revitalize the films program, which has seen a surge in attendance after years of decline. Hammerstrom went to the Sundance Film Festival to bring a film to IU, which Biennial attendees will screen October 21.

SCHOLARSHIP *Spotlight*

Indiana Memorial Union Board Scholarship

The Indiana Memorial Union Board Scholarship was established for Union Board directors and committee members and is based on need, academic record, and performance as a member of Union Board.



DaAsia Johnson,
Director Scholarship



Beth Nethery,
Director Scholarship



Jermaine Williams,
Director Scholarship

Director Scholarship recipients (\$2,000):

Beth Nethery, a senior in tourism, hospitality, and event management, has served Union Board as a Committee Member then Assistant Director of Late Night, Director of Performance and Entertainment, and Vice President of Internal Affairs. After graduating in December, she plans to work in the hospitality field on the West Coast.

DaAsia Johnson, a junior in biology, hopes to be a nurse when she graduates. Although only a first-year Director of Body and Mind, Johnson has learned to plan events, coordinate schedules, catering, and room reservations by volunteering for Union Board.

Jermaine Williams, a sophomore with intentions on biotechnology, is a Balfour Scholar and Chair of the NAACP IU chapter. Williams is the Current Topics Director and was pivotal in bringing Michael Brown Sr. to campus as a part of the social justice series.

Committee Member Scholarship recipients (\$1,000):

Tyler Strunk, a junior majoring in political science and sociology, hopes to go to law school after graduating. Strunk serves as the Assistant Director of Spirits and Traditions.

Quentin Beverly, a junior and voice major in the Jacobs School of Music, hopes to become a psychotherapist with a specialty in music therapy. He serves as the Assistant Director of Current Topics.

Hannah Powers, a senior in tourism, hospitality, and event management, has served on numerous committees including as an Assistant Director of Music.

Ethan Schwartz is a sophomore majoring in public policy analysis in the Kelley School. He is an Assistant Director of Films and also serves on the Performance and Entertainment, and Lectures Committees.

Union Board alumni play a key role in providing financial support to Union Board and the IMU. To find out more, visit imu.indiana.edu/about/support.

Remember to register for Biennial at

imu.indiana.edu/about/jws



In August, the Chocolate Moose, a Bloomington tradition for decades, opened an ice cream shop in the Union.

Get Involved! Connect with us using the links below.



jws1909@indiana.edu



www.jws.indiana.edu



facebook.com/groups/2322549514

Union Board Alumni Association

IMU Union Board Office
900 E. 7th St.
Bloomington, IN 47405



Recently, young alumni gathered at the Tow Yard in Indianapolis. Thanks to host Christine DeWeese (UB 1990), part owner of the restaurant, who donated the rental fee for the space.

**Thanks to all who contributed on IU Day.
We raised \$3,000!**

