

John Whittenberger Society

UNION BOARD ALUMNI NEWS | FALL 2018

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



JWS PRESIDENT



As I begin my eighth and final year serving you on the John Whittenberger Society Advisory Board, including six as your president, I have been reflecting on why I serve. Like many of you, I love Indiana University, and more specifically my time spent on Union Board as a student. Not only did I make long-lasting friends, but I also learned how to produce events, especially in the gorgeous and historic Indiana Memorial Union, and bring people together to enjoy music, lectures, films, and cultural events.

During my time on Union Board, I collaborated and consulted with fellow student leaders, members of the Board of Trustees, university administrators, the director of the IMU, and one of our more well-known UB alums, Herman B Wells. I drew on their passion to serve students and to help create wonderful experiences beyond the classroom—experiences that would make their time at IU special and memorable. We can all think back and smile as we remember a Union Board event that was fun, enlightening, or something we had never experienced.

Almost immediately upon graduation, as I passed through the East Lounge of the IMU for the last time as a student, I knew I didn't want my time to end; I knew I wanted to give back. So many Union Board alumni had inspired and helped me as a student, like Chancellor Wells, Rosemary Tanner, and Gene Fletchall. I knew I wanted to do whatever I could to support the current students on Union Board. Not only was I able to use my skills from Union Board in my first job out of college, but I kept in touch with fellow alumni, including the John Whittenberger Society. I stayed active, attended biennial reunions,

and started making gifts to fund scholarships. Over the years, I have met so many wonderful students and alumni of Union Board—the members of the John Whittenberger Society, those Union Board alumni, have kept alive the excitement, tradition, fellowship, and friendship that we all hold dear.

I am happy to report that the JWS Advisory Board has been evolving. We have expanded the board, have become much more diverse and representative of our alumni, and we are building committees and projects that will help serve the more than 1,000 living alumni, while giving back to Union Board, students, and the Indiana Memorial Union. We are focused on increasing participation in the JWS, fundraising for special projects and scholarships for Union Board, and creating programming for students and alumni alike. Our goal is to increase alumni involvement and inspire our future alumni to want to get involved and want to give back upon their graduation from Indiana University.

As we approach IU's bicentennial celebration, please keep reaching out, stay involved, and continue to bring your great ideas, so we make the John Whittenberger Society one of the most active IU alumni affinity groups at the university.

With warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Christian Carroll".

Christian Carroll (UB 1990)

President

The John Whittenberger Society

jws1909@indiana.edu

John Whittenberger Society Board

President:

Christian Carroll (UB 1990)

Board members

Susan Burns (UB 1971–72)

Kathy Cook (UB 2008)

Megan Ditton (UB 1996–97)

Martín Gímenez (UB 2001)

Jerald Harkness (UB 1990)

Anne Kostyo (UB 2008)

Michael Littenberg (UB 1985–87)

Margarette Minor (UB 1986–87)

Laura Osteen (UB 1989–90, 1990, 1991)

Lydia Shanklin Roll (UB 2003)

Atticus Westerfield (UB 2005)

Ex Officio Members

Mara Dahlgren

Ceci Jerry (UB 2017, 2018)

Jennifer Gentry

Winston Shindell

David Spencer

Hank Walter

John Whittenberger Society

Union Board Alumni News

Fall 2018

Volume 39, No.2

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.

DR. ROBERT FORSTE

Former Union Board member Robert Forste readily admits that it was his experiences as an undergraduate student at Indiana University, as a Union Board volunteer, and as an IU medical school student that made him who he is today.

Retired at 72 after a successful career as an orthopedic surgeon in Columbus, Indiana, Forste remains active with the Whittenberger Society, as well as with the IU Alumni Association and the IU School of Medicine Alumni Association. He specifically credits his time on Union Board in 1966 and 1967, under the mentorship of then-consecutive deans of students Robert H. Schafer and Thomas C. Schreck, as having a lasting positive effect on his personal and professional life.

“I was so impressed by these incredible gentlemen and how they always called upon you to adhere to the ethics and morality of running the Union Board,” he recalled. “And then there was the community of the Union Board, the give and take, and the responsibility associated with interacting with others.”

Those influences and experiences set the mold for Forste to go on and play leadership roles in state and national orthopedic associations, as well as with the IU alumni associations. And it was a fascination with Union Board and the Indiana Memorial Union as a freshman from New Albany, Indiana, beginning in 1965 that led him to his willingness to volunteer.

“I was encouraged by my fraternity (Sigma Alpha Epsilon) to engage in campus activities. I was so intrigued with the Union Board’s speaker’s series and its performance series,” he said. “It was interesting and eclectic, plus I really like their (Union Board’s) blazers.”

But if there is a single event or experience that stands out to Forste it would be Union Board’s production of the annual President’s Ball, a pre-Christmas holiday event, black tie at that, that he helped organize.

“It was held in Alumni Hall and the president (Elvis Jacob Stahr Jr.) and his wife would have a reception line and greet everyone; there was food and refreshments, and we had the Al Cobine Big Band perform,” he recalled. “I always felt I had a certain fealty for how I wanted a party to be, and I saw that event as my chance to act on that.”

Forste, who received his Bachelor of Arts in 1968 and his Doctor of Medicine in 1971, continues to reside in Columbus after his retirement.



PATIO EXPANSION PROJECT TO INCREASE OUTDOOR GATHERING SPACE

In 1986, just three years after its formation, the John Whittenberger Society left an indelible mark on visitors to the Indiana Memorial Union with its work creating the piazza-like Commemorative Garden on the northeast side of the IMU next to the Biddle Hotel entrance. JWS spearheaded fundraising with the 800 signature bricks that pave the garden and recognize the Union Board students, alumni, and friends who donated to fund the project in honor of the IMU's 75th anniversary.

When it came time to participate in IMU's Centennial Celebration, JWS took the lead again, this time raising funds to create the Centennial Patio that opened in 2010. The multilevel limestone patio looking over Jordan River and Dunn Meadow has delivered on the JWS goal of providing students and alumni a place to gather outside.

"It's become a very popular space," said IMU Executive Director Hank Walter. "If the weather is decent, people are out there."

Now, with Indiana University's bicentennial fast approaching in 2020, JWS and the IMU are again looking to have a positive impact on guests to the union. Recognizing the unequivocal success of the Centennial Patio, this latest challenge will seek to expand the patio to provide more seating, offer a larger firepit, create a stage for live music, and provide outdoor food options with a grill and food carts.



“We originally wanted something visible that people could enjoy, and we realized we didn’t have an outside space at the IMU,” retired IMU director Winston Shindell said of the original patio project. “Now we’ve seen how much people enjoy it, so it’s exciting to take on this new project, and I think JWS is going to be able to get creative with its fundraising. It’s all about connecting stories, and I think that’s our job with JWS, to connect people to the university as a community and to expand it.”

The Centennial Patio expansion project comes at a time when the area in and around the patio is teeming with change. The Woodlawn Avenue beautification project is about to come to an end with the construction of a terminus gate at

the avenue’s southern end next to the IMU at Seventh Street. Small pedestrian plazas will be placed at the northern corners of Woodlawn and Seventh, and the gate will have limestone columns and decorative wrought iron gates.

“The limestone entry and gates will provide some charm and grace to the area near our loading dock,” Walter said.

The university is also about to proceed with a Jordan River restoration project that will involve repairing retaining walls, failing river banks, and eroded lawn spaces, improving universal accessibility and adding gathering places, and removing invasive plants and replacing them with native species. The project includes the highly visible section of Jordan River that skirts the IMU.

One last amenity seeing improvements in coincidence with these other projects is a renovation of the dining spaces at Dunn Meadow Café (formerly Kiva), which flow out onto the Centennial Patio. Both the café and the area one floor above, known as The Commons, will be renovated within the next 18 months.

“The patio expansion is going to be happening concurrently with all of these other things in the area,” Walter said. “We have this wonderful hangout space, and we think we can triple the seating and connect it better to what will be a kind of new and beautiful Jordan River. We have the ability to expand, leave the green space, and improve accessibility. Now the final piece is going to be going out and trying to raise money to support it.”

Innovative Dining Service Tested in Anticipation of Proposed Renovations

Five new lunches on five weekdays from five proven Bloomington restaurants are now being served in the Indiana Memorial Union. The concept, called the Globe, is allowing diners to take a worldly spin that covers Greek, Mexican, Indian, Cajun, and Afghani cuisine.

Working out of the footprint of the former Burger King restaurant, B-town Gyros serves award-winning hummus and other Middle Eastern delicacies on Mondays. Original Mexican is offered Tuesdays by Juannita's Restaurant, followed by longtime Bloomington favorite Samira Restaurant serving Afghani specialties each Wednesday. Taste of India visits the IMU on Thursdays, followed by Dat's Cajun Creole Café every Friday.

"These are local restaurants offering international flavors that are bridging the gap between the Bloomington community and our campus," said IMU Executive Director Hank Walter. "Rotating the offerings gives us a chance to offer a variety of authentic cuisines. If this pilot program goes well, we may try to have some version of it included in the plan for the renovated dining operation to be completed next year."



CONTINUE *the*
THE UNION
BOARD LEGACY

Email jws1909@indiana.edu to find out how you can give back.

SAVE *the* DATE

OCTOBER 12–13, 2018
HOMECOMING

Email jws1909@indiana.edu to connect while you're in town.

OCTOBER 18–20, 2019
41ST BICENTENNIAL REUNION

SCHOLARSHIP *Spotlight*



Ceci Jerry,
Rosemary Tanner
Scholarship



Fuhang Mou,
Milton J. Fineberg
Scholarship



Olivia Owens
IMU Director
Scholarship



Kade Padgett,
IMU Director
Scholarship



Ria Reiben
IMU Director
Scholarship



Patrick Welsh,
Eugene D. Fletchall
Scholarship

2018-2019 Union Board Scholarship Awardees

Rosemary Tanner Scholarship

2018–19 recipients (\$6,000):

Ceci Jerry, senior, UB President

Patricia Cornejo, junior, Lectures Committee

Eugene D. Fletchall Union Board Scholarship

2018–19 recipient (\$4,000):

Patrick Welsh, junior, Films committee

Milton J. Fineberg Endowed Scholarship

2018–19 recipient (\$2,000):

Fuhang Mou, senior, Interdisciplinary
Connections committee

Indiana Memorial Union Board Scholarships

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.

Director Scholarship recipients (\$2,500):

Olivia Owens, junior, Lectures Committee

Kade Padgett, junior, Late Night Committee

Ria Reiben, senior, Canvas Creative Arts Committee

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

Rachael Jansky, junior

Victoria Jones, junior

Mackenzie Knight, junior

Tyler Strunk, senior

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.

2018 Union Board Scholarship Breakfast

Join members of the John Whittenberger Society Board and parents of current Union Board directors to honor the 2018 scholarship recipients during the Union Board Scholarship Breakfast on Saturday, October 20, 8:30-10 a.m. This event is part of Union Board Family Weekend, for parents and family members of the current Union Board.

Please RSVP to pmpotter@indiana.edu by October 16 if you can attend.

John Whittenberger Society

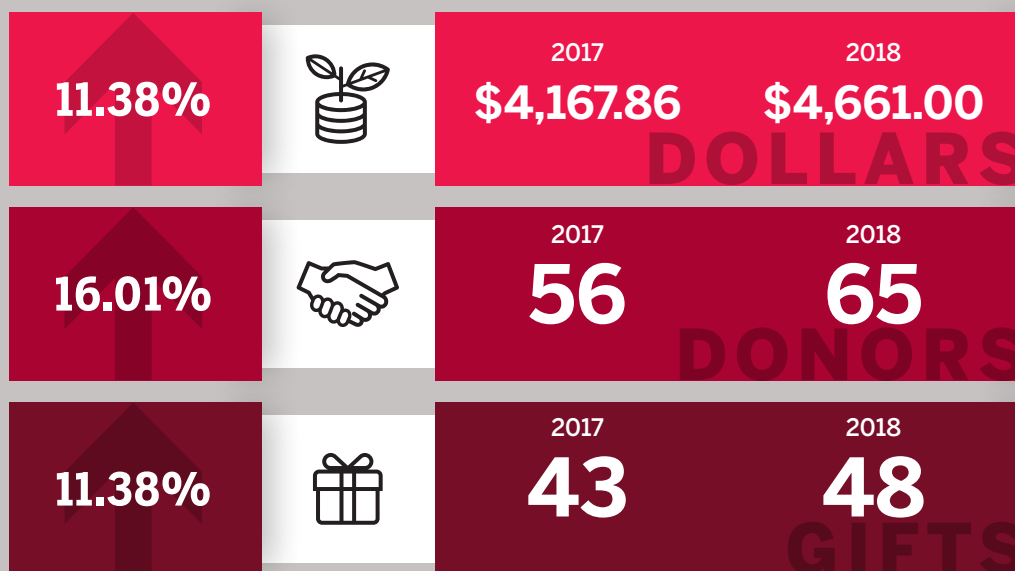
IMU Union Board Office

900 E. 7th St.

Bloomington, IN 47405

THANKS *to all who* CONTRIBUTED on **IU DAY 2018**

We raised more money from more donors making more gifts!



Mark your calendar for another opportunity to show your Hoosier pride:

The next IU Day will be April 10, 2019!

Get involved! Connect with us using the links below.



jws1909@indiana.edu



www.jws.indiana.edu



facebook.com/groups/2322549514



John Whittenberger Society

www.imu.indiana.edu