

# Zoar Manuscripts donated to Center for Communal Studies

John M. Lawrence '73 studied communal societies with Dr. Donald Pitzer in the 1970s. "I had only a dim idea of how deeply he might be drinking at the fountain of utopian dreams," Pitzer said.

As the Center for Communal Studies celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2006, Lawrence donated 28 manuscripts from The Separatist Society of Zoar, a communal society of German religious dissenters formed in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, in 1817. Named for Lot's Biblical town of refuge, Zoar struggled economically before shifting to a communal arrangement that allowed it to become self-sustaining. Zoarites grew their own food and sold their products to other towns. By 1852, the community's assets were valued at more than \$1 million.

Lawrence, who holds an accounting degree from USI, went on to become an international expert on ancient manuscripts. He donated the Zoar Manuscripts in honor of Pitzer, professor of history and director of the Center for Communal Studies. At a ceremony, Pitzer said, "I am honored to have this gift come to USI in my name. Thank you, John, not just for myself, but for all who will benefit in future years."

The text of the manuscripts is thought to be sermons or religious discourses of the founder and spiritual leader of Zoar, Joseph Baumler, who later anglicized his name to Bimeler. In a letter documenting the authenticity of the manuscripts, Lawrence wrote that they once were part of a bound book that was divided in 1890, as the society began to decline in the wake of Bimeler's death. In 1898, common property was divided among members, with each receiving about 50 acres and \$200. Lawrence consulted with two experts on Zoar who agreed the manuscripts, written in German, are most likely missing original transcriptions of Bimeler's sermons.

"It's possible that the texts were personally scribed by Joseph Bimeler, but this has not been forensically proven," Lawrence said. He acquired the manuscripts from a retiring Lutheran pastor in Cleveland, Ohio, who was given the manuscripts by a descendent of the Zoar community who said, "Take care of them, as they are important."

"The value of these documents to scholars is priceless for reasons that are clearly evident," Lawrence said.

Over the past 30 years, the Center for Communal Studies has served as a worldwide hub for information. It is a unique resource for USI students and faculty as well as scholars, communitarians, and site directors around the globe. The invaluable research materials it has gathered are available in the Center office (Liberal Arts Center, Room 2009) and in the Special Collections Department of the David L. Rice Library. For more information about the Center for Communal Studies, call 812/464-1727.

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#### Elizabeth D'Onofrio theatre workshop



Elizabeth D'Onofrio (left) offered a workshop for USI Theatre students (including Josh Smith and Emily Permar, pictured) on October 20, 2006, at USI. Robert Walker '75, pastor at Zion United Church of Christ in downtown Evansville, arranged for D'Onofrio's visit after attending a workshop the actress coaches with her brother, Vincent D'Onofrio.

#### **Dean's Message**

#### College's eight departments become nine

by David Glassman, Dean of Liberal Arts

s dean, one of my greatest sources of satisfaction is to watch how our eight departments in the College of Liberal Arts continue to grow in guality, size, and complexity. We now offer 30 major areas of study and two graduate programs—one in public administration and the other in liberal arts studies. And we won't be stopping there. Several departments already are considering adding new major and minor programs in criminal justice, anthropology, theatre education, and vocal music over the next several years. I wouldn't be surprised if we were to add new graduate program opportunities for our students, as well.

This progress is the tangible result of the college's shared vision to be the best comprehensive undergraduate college of liberal arts in the state of Indiana, bar none! To this end, we will continue to add new programs and routinely assess and revise existing programs to ensure the highest quality education and to remain competitive and responsive to the needs of our students and the southern Indiana community.

I am pleased to announce an important reorganization of the College of Liberal Arts beginning fall semester 2007. Everyone who is familiar with the college is aware of our outstanding and highly visible programs in art and theatre. Currently, these two programs are housed together with music in the Department of Art, Music, and Theatre. Student interest in the fields of art and theatre has grown the department into the secondlargest in the

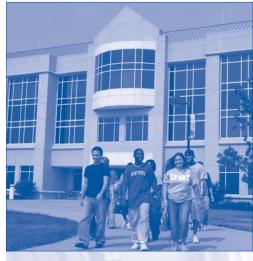


college, with more than 300 art program majors and more than 70 theatre majors.

Both programs also have added incredibly talented new faculty with the addition of Craig Young in theatre lighting design; Lenny Leibowitz in theatre direction and as the new artistic director of our professional theatre in New Harmony; and Rob Millard–Mendez, a wonderful woodworker who has large shoes to fill replacing legendary John McNaughton.

The faculty growth in size and talent in both the art and theatre programs tells me it is time for the department to be split into two independent departments: the Department of Art and the Department of Performing Arts. Performing arts will include both the theatre and music programs. Becoming independent departments is a testament to the two programs' quality, strength, and academic maturity. They now may continue to grow according to their own visions and goals.

Soon I will have the opportunity to watch how our nine departments continue to grow in quality, size, and complexity, and who knows, there may be other new departments just around the corner.



#### **College of Liberal Arts**

Dean Dr. David Glassman .....812/464-1855

#### Departments

Communications Dr. J. Wayne Rinks ......812/464-1950

English Dr. Michael Kearns ......812/464-1748

Foreign Language Dr. Leslie Roberts ......812/465-7027

Philosophy and Political Science Dr. Paul Raymond . . . . . . 812/465-7142

Psychology Dr. Joseph Palladino .....812/464-1952

www.usi.edu/libarts

The LA Story logo was designed by USI graphic design student M. Eric Hill '03.





### College of Liberal Arts welcomes new faculty

Dr. W. Everett Chesnut has accepted a position as instructor in English. Chesnut holds a doctorate degree in philosophy from the University of Oklahoma and was formerly a professor of English at Reedley College.

Nikki Combs has accepted a position as instructor in psychology. She holds a Master of Arts degree in Industrial Organizational Psychology. She is a member of several organizations including the Vanderburgh County Southwestern Indiana Network for Education, Evansville Literacy Coalition, and Psi Chi. Combs was formerly an adjunct faculty member at Ivy Tech-Evansville.

James Hammerstrand has accepted a position as instructor in Spanish. He holds a Master of Arts degree from Purdue University. He won the Pickins-Queen award for outstanding teaching and is a member of Faculty and Course Development in International Studies and the Modern Language Association. Hammerstrand was formerly a visiting assistant professor at the University of Evansville.

Carlton Hastings has accepted a position as instructor in sociology. Hastings is completing his doctoral dissertation for Kansas State University with specializations in global sociology and environmental sociology. He holds a Master of Arts degree in sociology from Northern Illinois University and was formerly an instructor at Dalton State College.

Dr. Allen Helmstetter has accepted a position as instructor in English. He holds a doctorate degree in English literature from the University of North Dakota. He is a member of the Modern Language Association and Pi Lambda Theta. Helmstetter was formerly a general education instructor at Minnesota State Community and Technical College.

Audrey Hillyer has accepted a position as instructor in English. She holds a Master of Arts degree from DePaul University. Hillyer was formerly a grant writer and adjunct professor of English at Wilbur Wright College.

Matthew Holcomb has accepted a position as lecturer in psychology. He holds a Master of Clinical Psychology degree from Mississippi State University. He is a member of the South Eastern Psychological Association and the Mississippi Psychological Association.



Hammerstrand









Helmstetter



Leihowitz

Strezewski Young



Photos of Chestnut. Combs, Holcomb, John, Kwon, Lohse, and Reese unavaible

Millard-Mendez

Holcomb was formerly employed at Mississippi State University-Meridian.

Jeremiah John has accepted a position as instructor in political science. John holds a Master of Arts degree from the University of Notre Dame, where he was a teaching assistant.

Dr. Uisoon Kwon has accepted a position as instructor in political science. Kwon holds a doctorate degree in political science from Western Michigan University, where he was a part-time instructor.

Lenny Leibowitz has succeeded Scott LaFeber as artistic director of The New Harmony Theatre. Most recently, he was a resident director for the Chamber Theatre Company in Boston. He received his B.A. from Columbia University and his M.F.A. from Boston University, where he also was a member of the conservatory faculty. He is a member of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers.

Dr. Russell Lohse has accepted a position as assistant professor of history. Lohse holds a doctorate degree in history from the University of Texas at Austin and was formerly a visiting assistant professor at Saint Louis University.

Dr. C. Bryan Love has accepted a position as instructor in English. He holds a doctorate degree from the University of Maryland. Love was formerly an in-house editor at Bruccoli Clark Layman, Incorporated.

Rob Millard-Mendez has accepted a position as assistant professor of art. He holds a Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth. His memberships include the College Art Association, International Sculpture Center, New England Sculptor's Association, and American Craft Council. Millard-Mendez was formerly a full-time lecturer in foundations at Northeastern University.

Mary Beth Reese has accepted a position as instructor in communication studies. She holds a Master of Business Administration degree from USI. Reese was formerly the director of Corporate Communication at Vectren/SIGECO.

Dr. Michael Strezewski has accepted a position as assistant professor of anthropology. He holds a doctorate degree from Indiana University-Bloomington. He is a member of the Society for American Archaeology and Midwest Archaeological Conference, and a board member of the Indiana Archeological Council and Friends of Angel Mounds. Strezewski was formerly a post-doctoral research assistant at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne.

Craig Young has accepted a position as theatrical lighting designer for USI Theatre. Young holds a Master of Fine Arts degree from Virginia Tech University and was formerly head of design and assistant professor at Florida International University.

#### RopeWalk Writers Retreat announces the creation of RopeWalk Press

Since 1988, RopeWalk Writers Retreat has given hundreds of participants the opportunity to attend workshops and confer privately with prominent writers in historic New Harmony, Indiana, the site of two nineteenth-century Utopian experiments and a history of creative and intellectual achievement.

Workshops at RopeWalk are consciously restricted to a dozen participants in order to retain a sense of intimacy between faculty and attendees in New Harmony's retreat-like atmosphere. Its new publishing house, RopeWalk Press, shares those values of high quality and attention to detail.

The first release from RopeWalk Press was Matthew Guenette's chapbook, *A Hush of Something Endless*. Jeffrey Thomson's *Benevolent Knowledge* will be released on March 1, 2007.

"As part of the publishing cycle, we will release individual chapbooks of merit and host a contest every summer. Ideally, the press hopes to publish and promote three to four titles a year," said Ron Mitchell, editor of the chapbook series. "A chapbook is usually 20 to 30 pages of poetry, fiction, or nonfiction. We hope to publish all genres, not just poetry."

According to Matthew Graham, co-founding RopeWalk director, "We want to commemorate our accomplishments by introducing a 20-year anniversary anthology containing the poems, short stories, and essays of all the writers who have participated in the conference over the years."

Twenty Years in Utopia: The RopeWalk Writers Retreat Anthology,

to be released in June of 2008, features nationally prominent writers such as Stephen Dobyns, Lynn Emanuel, Phil Levine, Sigrid Nunez, Victoria Redel, Kim Barnes, Robert Wrigley, and Susan Neville. Order online at

http://www.usi.edu/ropewalk/RopeWalk\_Press.asp.

#### Southern Indiana Review offers student internships

Southern Indiana Review, the University's literary magazine, began offering student internships in fall 2006. Ron Mitchell, managing editor, said, "As I'm putting together the spring issue of the magazine, the students will create a 'mirror' *Southern Indiana Review*, making their own choices and learning how to do the layout and design using publishing software."

Students in ENG 498: Internship in English were Chris Dickens, Amy Leighty, Brittney Scott, Candice Thomas, and Jon Webb. With their help, the *Southern Indiana Review* Web site now includes an archived table of contents of each issue of the journal since its first publication in 1994. Students also process submissions, market the magazine, and help promote the Mary C. Mohr Short Fiction Award. Students in the course earn three credit hours and are expected to contribute 10 hours a week.

The fall 2006 issue of *Southern Indiana Review* showcases the artwork of Lenny Dowhie, professor of art, and local artist Genie Woolman; poetry by Jim Daniels, Tim Kahl, Christy Effinger, Iver Arnegard, Priscilla Atkins, Elizabeth Schultz, Patrick Hicks, Peter Desy, Alison Baumann, Greg Moglia, Jon Tribble, David James, and Matthew Guenette; fiction by Liam Callanan, H. William Taeusch, Stephanie Dickinson, and Linda Lappin; nonfiction by Stephen Dufrechou, Diane Shipley DeCillis, and Calvin Mills; and reviews by Gail Eisenhart and Pamela Garvey. Purchase at the USI Bookstore, local booksellers, or online at http://www.usi.edu/sir.

# Spring 2007 Ropewalk Reading Series

The first reading in the spring 2007 RopeWalk Reading Series will feature USI faculty and local contributors to *Home Again: Essays and Memoirs from Indiana*. Each reading in the series begins at 7 p.m. in Kleymeyer Hall in the Liberal Arts Center and is followed by a book-signing and reception.

- \* Home Again: Essays and Memoirs from Indiana January 25
- \* Liam Rector February 22
- \* Matthew Guenette, Jeffrey Thomson, and Matthew Graham March 22.
- National Poetry Month April TBA

For more information, contact Jim McGarrah, assistant professor of English, at 812/461-5381.

### Barber to pursue "five P's" in retirement



Barber

Dr. Charles T. Barber is retiring from the University effective June 2007. In his 36 years at USI, the professor of political science has taught 20 different courses, traveled to 49 countries, created four courses, and written a textbook.

In retirement, Barber plans to pursue philately, which piqued his interest in all things international when he was 10 years old; photography, especially organizing the many slides from his travels; playing the piano, a pastime that reflects his undergraduate minor in music; planting the two acres where he lives with his wife, Carolyn Roth, instructor in art; and publishing

a second edition of his textbook,

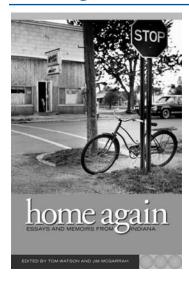
From Person to Planet: International Politics at Five Levels.

Many of Barber's trips abroad have been through his membership in the International Studies Association (ISA), a connection which he will continue in retirement. He delivered a paper at a meeting in Rio de Janeiro in summer 2006 and will give another in Buçaco, Portugal, at an ISA subgroup meeting in June 2007. He will attend the activities of the Indiana Political Science Association when it meets at USI in March 2007.

As a scholar, Barber focuses his research on international organizations, the Mediterranean community, counterterrorism, and the United Nations Security Council. He created a capstone course about the decade of the sixties and also has developed courses on the United Nations, politics in Canada, and the Middle East. Barber also wrote the original proposal for the master's degree program in public administration which began in 2003.

Barber completed a bachelor's degree at West Virginia Wesleyan College and a master's and doctorate at American University. He taught four years at East Tennessee State University before joining USI in 1971.

#### Home Again anthology features work of Liberal Arts faculty



Jim McGarrah and Tom Watson met while in the MFA program at Vermont College, but they both have Hoosier roots. Watson, online instructor of writing for Indiana University, grew up in Bloomington. McGarrah, USI assistant professor of English, is a Princeton native.

The two are co-editors of a new anthology of essays about living in Indiana. Published by the Indiana Historical Society Press, *Home Again: Essays and Memoirs from Indiana* addresses what it means to make a home in the Hoosier State.

In addition to McGarrah, USI contributors are Patricia Aakhus, director of International Studies and assistant professor of English; Leisa Belleau, instructor in English; Matthew Graham, director of Creative Writing and associate professor of English; Dr. Thomas Wilhelmus, professor of English; and Scott Saalman '87. The book ends with an essay on being a native Midwesterner by Indianapolis native Kurt Vonnegut (*Slaughterhouse-Five*).

Home Again: Essays and Memoirs from Indiana is available at the USI Bookstore, the Indiana Historical Society's Basile History Market gift store, and at bookstores throughout Indiana.

#### **Community of Scholars Lecture**

The 2006-07 Community of Scholars Lecture, "Ecological Criticism and Latin American Literature," will be presented by Dr. Jonathan Tittler, professor of Hispanic studies at the University of Rutgers-Camden. Tittler's research interests include Afro-Hispanic literature, the theory and practice of literary translation, and ecological criticism in connection with Latin American fiction. He will present the lecture at 7 p.m. January 29, 2007, in Carter Hall in the University Center. Call the Foreign Language Department at 812/461-5203 for more information.

#### USI Alumni Association hosts Alaskan adventure

The USI Alumni Association will offer an Alaskan cruise, "Voyage of the Glaciers," July 7–14, 2007. The cruise aboard the Diamond Princess also includes an optional land tour, "Heart of Alaska," July 14–17 to Mount McKinley, Denali National Park, and Fairbanks. For more information, contact Nancy L. Johnson, director of Alumni and Volunteer Services, at 812/464-1924.

## Utopiana dreams: Students and faculty collaborate with artist Mary Beth Edelson



Artist Mary Beth Edelson (center) with USI students and community members. Photo by Jason Reese

Internationally renowned artist and feminist activist Mary Beth Edelson is working with USI students, faculty, and New Harmony residents on a collaborative art project called Utopiana. Edelson was artist in residence at the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art in fall 2006 during the first "envisioning" phase of the project. She will return in 2007 for the implementation phase.

April Vasher-Dean, director of the New Harmony Gallery, invited Katie Waters, professor of art and chair of the Art, Music, and Theatre Department, and Dr. Hilary Braysmith, associate professor of art history, to help plan the project, ensuring that USI students had the opportunity to work with a famous artist on site in New Harmony.

USI students Gena Bradley, Brittany Gray, Stacey Gray, Erica Hroblak, Derek McGraw, Sarah Nellis, Janelle Persohn, Phil Schmitt, Katie Watts, and Corinne Wilson are participating in the project, as are USI Art Department alumni Tracy Gholson and Jason Reese and Erika Myers-Bromwell, assistant director at New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art, who holds a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies degree from USI. Reese, a graduate student in the MALS program, also is visually documenting the project.

Utopiana project members participated in workshops five times a week for a month, with a focus on conceptualizing projects that would answer the question, "What is Utopian in our culture today that we don't recognize as such?"

Edelson introduced a list of "Golden Rules" for communication between participants in the workshops, the first of which was "Be respectful and kind to one another." In the artist's view, the Utopian-inspired social interaction is the artwork in and of itself. In this atmosphere, the group selected the following projects for 2007:

- Students collaborated with local architect Ben Nicholson to begin designing a public space parallel to Main Street in New Harmony's McClure Square that could provide Internet access to those enjoying aesthetically rendered tables, seating, an information kiosk, and a community bulletin board.
- A designed public picnic area with hummingbird feeders and a walking path in Red Bud Park on Church Street.
- Aesthetically interpreted benches painted with historical and contemporary New Harmony quotes, placed in locations around New Harmony, rotated monthly, and eventually auctioned off as a fundraiser for the overall project.

Edelson's artwork is rooted in feminism, political activism, collaboration, and public participation. It has been widely exhibited in the U.S. and abroad and is in the permanent collection of numerous public institutions including the Museum of Modern Art and the Guggenheim in New York, the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., the Walker Art Center in Minnesota, and the Malmö Konstmuseum in Sweden.

## USI Foundation awards excellence in teaching and learning

Because of generous donations to the USI Annual Fund, the USI Foundation was able to establish new awards that demonstrate support for outstanding teaching and learning. Two students and two faculty members (one new and one adjunct) from each of the University's five colleges will receive the award each academic year. College of Liberal Arts student recipients of the USI Foundation Excellence in Learning Award are Charles Aull, a history major from Boonville, Indiana, and Megan Fallon, a theatre/art major from Columbus, Indiana. To be eligible for the award, College of Liberal Arts students must have completed 80 hours at the time of application; have a minimum GPA of 3.5; and submit an essay on the importance of their learning experience at USI. Preference is given to students showing excellence in more than one area of liberal arts. Awards will be for \$1,000 each and may only be used for tuition, books, and fees. Recipients of the USI Foundation Teaching Award for New Faculty and USI Foundation Teaching Award for Adjunct Faculty will be announced at the spring 2007 Faculty and Administrative Staff meeting. The new faculty award winner will receive a \$1,000 cash stipend and a faculty development grant of \$1,000. The adjunct faculty award winner will receive a \$500 cash stipend and a faculty development grant of \$500.

## Zutt collection on view

Works of art from the diverse collection of Evansville native Betty Zutt are on view in the McCutchan Gallery in the Wright Administration Building through spring 2007. Zutt died February 2, 2006, at 91, leaving bequests to the USI Foundation to enhance the Elizabeth Zutt Art Student Enrichment Program, which she established in 1998, as well as a collection of 22 works of art. The enrichment fund, now valued at more than \$400,000, supports student travel and provides awards that enable students to purchase art supplies and admission to exhibits, lectures, and other art-related events. The sculptures and paintings which she bequeathed to the University's teaching collection were accumulated over a lifetime of travel throughout the world.

#### **Distinguished Scholar Lecture**

Dr. S. Ravi Rajan, associate professor of environmental studies at the University of California-Santa Cruz, will present the 2006-07 Distinguished Scholar Lecture, "Sustenance, Security, and Suffrage: A Perspective on Environmental Justice," February 19, 2007, at USI. Rajanis the author of *Modernizing Nature: Forestry and Imperial Eco-Development 1800-1950* (Oxford University Press, 2006), numerous scholarly articles, and periodic essays for the popular news media; served as the president of the board of directors of Pesticide Action Network, North America (PANNA); and co-founded the Bhopal Group for Information and Action. For more information, call the Sociology Department at 812/461-5264.

#### USI art students win graphic design contest



USI prevailed over the University of Evansville in a graphic design contest sponsored by Kenny Kent Toyota Scion Lexus. Students from each university designed half of a Scion xB in support of their basketball teams, and the dealership had the Scion professionally "wrapped" in the designs. The public was invited to vote online for best design. The winner was announced during the UE/USI Vectren Community Classic basketball game in November. USI's winning half was designed by Jon Gelhausen '06 and Gregory Nixon '06. Both graduated in December.

USI Scion Design

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#### Spring 2007 Events

Ja	nuary	
	6-17	Senior Seminar Exhibit I
	13	Senior Seminar Exhibit I Reception
	20	USI Theatre Showcase
	20-31	Senior Seminar Exhibit II
	25	RopeWalk Reading
	27	Senior Seminar Exhibit II Reception
	29	Community of Scholars Lecture
	- /	
Fe	bruary	
	2	Society for Arts & Humanities
	15	"Toast to the Arts"
	14-17	USI Theatre: A Raisin in the Sun
	19	Distinguished Scholar Lecture
	20-25	USI Theatre: A Raisin in the Sun
	22	RopeWalk Reading
84	arch	
IVIc	3-9	Travel Study: Peru
	16-18	Alpha Psi Omega: Three One-Act
	10-10	Plays
	22	RopeWalk Reading
11	30	Indiana Political Science Associatio Meeting
		meeting
April		TENT
	1-8	Juried Student Art Exhibition
	11-15	USI Theatre: Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well and Living In Paris
	17-22	USI Theatre: Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well and Living In Paris



## Hoeness-Krupsaw is Indiana College English Association Educator of the Year



Dr. Susanna Hoeness-Krupsaw, associate professor of English, is the 2006 Indiana College English Association Educator of the Year. Hoeness-Krupsaw earned her B.A. in English and French from the University of Heidelberg, Germany, and her M.A. and Ph.D. in English from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. She joined USI in 1989. Leisa Belleau, instructor in English, nominated Hoeness-Krupsaw for the award. She said, "Susanna is being honored as 2006 Teacher of the Year by ICEA because she represents and demonstrates excellence. As her colleague and friend, I consider no one more deserving of such recognition."

Hoeness-Krupsaw

# Visit USI on Southern Hospitality Days

USI invites prospective students and their families to visit campus on Southern Hospitality Days, with interest sessions about academic areas; tours of campus facilities including residence hall suites and apartments; financial aid information; and complimentary lunch. Spring 2007 Southern Hospitality Days are February 3, February 24, March 17, and April 14. To register, call the USI Office of Admission at 812/464-1765 or 800/467-1965.

> Michael Aakhus Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts

Dr. David Glassman Dean, College of Liberal Arts



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College of Liberal Arts

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