



# NEWSWATCH

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October 2020

**Next meeting: 2 p.m., Wednesday, November 11  
via Zoom**

## Political scientist Carmines to reflect on 2020 election – which will be over!



When retirees gather Nov. 11, they will hear from **Edward G. Carmines**, Warner O. Chapman Professor of Political Science. “It will be the week after the election, and he’ll have plenty to talk about,” says IURA Program Chair **Doug Porter**.

Ed’s main research interest is American politics, especially elections, political behavior, and public opinion. “I am currently studying how the public is responding to the increasing ideological polarization between our major political parties,” he says. Another research interest is the role that voters’ policy preferences play in their electoral decisions.

After earning his Ph.D. at SUNY Buffalo in 1975, Ed came to IU as a visiting assistant professor. He never left, except for stints as a visiting professor at Oxford and as a fellow at Stanford and Princeton. Since 2001 he has been director of IU’s Center on American Politics. He became research director at the Center on Congress in 2003.

An elected fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, he has received the AMOCO Award for Distinguished Teaching from Indiana University.

He enjoys reading, traveling, watching sports, and playing bocce ball on the beaches at Cape Cod.

A Zoom link will be emailed to members who have provided an email address. More information will be available on the IURA website.

## United Way imagines better normal

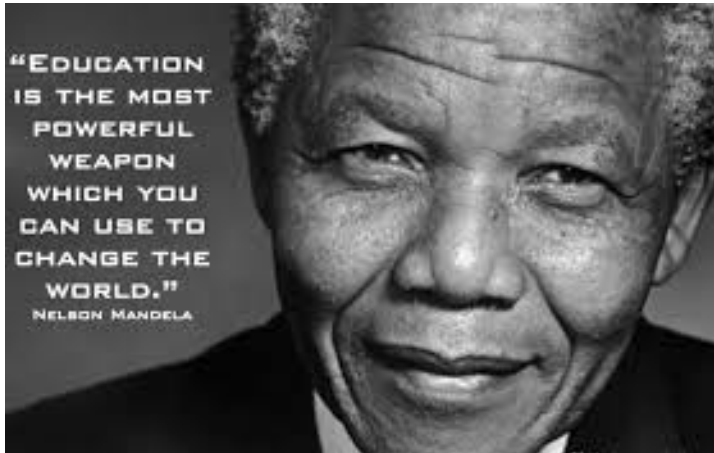
Retirees soon will receive information in the mail about the 2020 United Way campaign. **Sherrie Shuler**, resource development director at United Way of Monroe County, emphasized the important role that retirees play. “Your membership has a significant impact on what the United Way is able to do in the community,” she told retirees via Zoom at the Oct. 14 meeting of the IURA.

“When everything else was shutting down in March, we were ramping up,” she said. “We sprang into action.” A priority was setting up a recovery center for those experiencing homelessness along with COVID-19. A special COVID relief fund allowed United Way agencies to help people better weather the epidemic. For example, the Hoosier Hills Food Bank has distributed 5 million pounds of food so far this year.

United Way’s kickoff campaign asked people to Reimagine 2020, to reimagine a *better* normal for people in Monroe, Owen, and Greene counties. Sherrie invites people with questions to contact her directly: [sherrie@monroeunitedway.org](mailto:sherrie@monroeunitedway.org), (423) 693-3906.

Last year retirees contributed \$283,000, surpassing its \$250,000 goal. IURA board member **Jim Grandorf**, who co-chairs United Way’s Vanguard effort, has set \$275,000 as the IURA’s goal for this year. Other members of the IURA team are IURA Secretary **Perry Maul** and **Eileen Schellhammer**.

## Gonzalez: Education is the answer



**Gerardo Gonzalez** believes in education. Dean of the School of Education from 2000 to 2015, he wrote a book about his own journey to the American dream. Its subtitle: *The Power of Education*. Gerardo began his talk to retirees on Oct. 14 with the above quotation from Nelson Mandela.

Gerardo's future was anything but preordained. He was 11 when his family left Cuba in February 1962, one of the last families to be able to leave legally, with the state's permission. Many Cuban refugees flooded Miami, intending to return when the Castro regime failed. Speaking no English, Gerardo was sent to a school where he was suspended for speaking Spanish. "The teachers resented Latino students," he said. He was placed on the vocational track and, because of social promotion, graduated from high school. He had no thought of – or interest in – college.

But a friend suggested community college, and, thanks to the junior college's open door policy, he was admitted. "I learned from my failures," he says. He was the first in his family to attend college.

Gerardo credits two professors in the University of Florida's Department of Psychology for their encouragement as he earned his bachelor's and Ph.D. degrees. "Their mentoring made it possible for me to succeed," he says.

His advice to other "voyagers" trying to fit in:

- Remember your roots.
- Never give up.
- Seek mentors.
- Trust serendipity.
- Ask questions.

- Pursue your passion
- Give back.

Gerardo's book, *A Cuban Refugee's Journey to the American Dream*, has sold well. It made Amazon's best-sellers list for Hispanic and Latino biographies. "I grew up in a family that told stories," he says. He wrote his story to "honor and celebrate the sacrifice of my parents."

Gerardo remembers well his impressions when he returned to Cuba 40 years later as the leader of a People to People group of IU alumni. IURA members **Frank Lester** and **Diana Lambdin** were part of that group. Frank had to visit a medical facility because of ankle problems. He was seen immediately, and there was no charge.

Cuba has, perhaps, the best medical care in the world, Gerardo agreed, and listed its points of pride: education, the arts, and health care. But, he said, Cubans say there was a tradeoff: "We lost breakfast, lunch, and dinner." The economy is in shambles.

Visit <https://cubanrefugeejourney.com> to learn more. Zoom has its advantages. Gerardo spoke to the group from his condo in St. Augustine, and **Cigdem Belim** joined us from England.

Welcoming retirees from distant places, IURA President **Charlie Matson** reported two pieces of information: the search committee for President **Michael McRobbie's** successor has been named, and **Dan Smith** is resigning as IU Foundation CEO at the end of the year and returning to the Kelley School. **J T. Forbes**, CEO of the Alumni Association, will be the Foundation's interim CEO.

## Spotlight on Martha McCarthy

One of the people on Zoom Oct. 14 was **Martha McCarthy**, Chancellor's Professor Emerita at IU and now a Presidential Professor at Loyola Marymount University. We asked her to describe her reasons for belonging to the IURA.



I've been an IURA member since I retired from IU in 2011 after teaching law and policy courses and serving in various administrative roles for 35 years. I left IU on June 30 and became a faculty member at

Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles on July 1. I definitely flunked retirement! I'm still at LMU (working remotely right now), and I live in beautiful Marina del Rey. Every time I think about retiring (again), LMU does something to pull me back.

Of course my heart remains at Indiana University. Although I haven't been able to attend IURA

meetings, I have thoroughly enjoyed the newsletter, which is always packed with interesting and useful information. And now that the meetings are on Zoom, I can attend when my job permits. Thus, there is a silver lining to being homebound. I also connect online with friends I wouldn't see otherwise and dance virtually each week with my Bloomington contra dance group, which is great fun.

*(continued on Page 4)*

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## Who are these members of the IURA? A quiz

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1. Yvette Alex-Assensoh | a. Head of IU Fine Arts Library for 40 years                          |
| 2. Howard Mehlinger     | b. Associate director of career services at Kelley School of Business |
| 3. Dick McKaig          | c. Inducted into National Athletic Trainers Association Hall of Fame  |
| 4. Kip Smith            | d. Longtime dean of admissions at Maurer School of Law                |
| 5. Ralf Shaw            | e. Dean of HPER from 1976 to 2002                                     |
| 6. Bonnie Brownlee      | f. Former Monroe County Commissioner; widow of economics professor    |
| 7. April Legler         | g. Former political science professor and dean for women's affairs    |
| 8. B.J. Irvine          | h. As dean, heavily involved in US/USSR Textbook Study Project        |
| 9. Jim Kennedy          | i. 2005 winner of national award for student personnel leadership     |
| 10. Frank Motley        | j. School of Library and Information Science's last dean              |
| 11. Tony Mobley         | k. Taught in School of Journalism/Media School for 34 years           |
| 12. Iris Kiesling       | l. Attorney/professor who served two terms as county sheriff          |

*Answers on last page*

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## IU Retirees Association 2020-2021 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

For couple membership, spouse's/partner's name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ 9-digit ZIP code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Email(s) \_\_\_\_\_

When possible, I wish to receive the newsletter by email rather than in paper form.

Check if you do not wish your telephone number  or email address  included in the membership directory.

Enclosed is my check, made payable to IU Retirees Association, for:

\_\_\_\_\_ Single membership (\$20)      \_\_\_\_\_ Couple membership (\$30)

Please mail this form with your check to  
IU Retirees Association  
P.O. Box 8393  
Bloomington, IN 47407-8393

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**P.O. Box 8393**  
**Bloomington, IN 47407-8393**

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### **Answers to quiz on Page 3**

1.g; 2.h; 3.i; 4.c; 5.j; 6.k; 7.b; 8.a; 9.l; 10.d; 11.e; 12.f

### **Martha McCarthy** *(contd. from Page 3)*

It was a thrill to be at Gerardo Gonzalez's excellent presentation. I already had read my former dean's terrific book, but his remarks, pictures, and video made me want to read it again. It was wonderful to see former colleagues on the screen. I look forward to attending other meetings on Zoom, and I'll remain a member even when the meetings and other events are in-person again.

I get nostalgic for Bloomington and IU, especially since my usual summer trip to participate in the McCarthy Law and Policy Institute was cancelled. I hope to get back in 2021. And I send my best wishes to everyone to stay safe and healthy.

### **Why am I getting this newsletter?**

You are getting this newsletter for one of three reasons. Database manager **Doris Wittenburg** maintains a Big List of more than 1,000 names. Your mailing label reveals your status:

1. If you are a member in good standing, the top line tells you your dues are paid.
2. If you have been a member in previous years but have not paid your dues for 2020-21, the top line asks you to renew.

3. If you have never been a member, that line encourages you to join.

Special thanks to the 387 people who, as of Oct. 16, have paid their membership dues. They make this newsletter possible. The IURA is entirely self-supporting. Founded in 1975 as the IU Annuitants Association, the IURA welcomes all retired faculty and staff and their spouses or partners.

If you have not paid dues for this year, this is your next-to-last newsletter. If you wish to be removed from the list, send a message to Doris at [dwittenb@indiana.edu](mailto:dwittenb@indiana.edu) with "unsubscribe" in the subject line and your name as it appears on IU records. Send address changes to Doris as well.

**Judy Schroeder** writes *Newswatch* eight times a year, August through April, except for February. Please send corrections and comments to her at [jschroed@indiana.edu](mailto:jschroed@indiana.edu).

