



NEWSWATCH

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**Next meeting: 2 p.m., Wednesday, May 12
still via Zoom**

Bennett to explore future of travel

In spring a retiree's fancy turns to thoughts of travel. With that hankering in mind, the May 12 meeting of the IURA will feature **Bill Bennett**, who has served as director of alumni travel at the Indiana University Alumni Association since December 2014. Bill will talk about how professionals see the future of travel for the rest of 2021 and into 2022.



Bill has more than 20 years of experience in travel planning. In addition to his work at the IUAA, he led Monroe Bank's travel program for 13 years. Bill has led groups to more than 60 countries and 48 states, including trips to Cuba, the Galapagos Islands, and the Arctic Circle to see polar bears. He serves on a multi-university advisory council for the travel

companies Go Next and Oceania Cruises and is a member of the Educational Travel Consortium.

Bill, who worked for a time as Meadowood's marketing director, is also a talented photographer. See <https://www.billbennettphotography.com>. He holds a bachelor's degree from the State University of New York at Albany and an MBA degree from Russell Sage College.

Annual meeting scheduled for May

The May 12 meeting will serve as the annual meeting of the IURA. Retirees will elect three people to three-year terms on the board. The candidates are **Geoff Conrad**, **Charlie Matson**, and **Audrey Morgan**. Nominations from the floor will be accepted with the consent of the nominee(s).

Geoff Conrad currently is co-director of Emeriti House. He is professor emeritus of anthropology and director emeritus of the Mathers Museum. During his IU career, from 1983 to 2012, he led archaeological expeditions in Peru and the Dominican Republic. His wife Karen, associate director of travel for the IU Alumni Association, and their three sons are all IU alumni. His hobby is photography, especially wildlife and travel.

Charlie Matson retired in 2013 after 23 years of service, mostly as an engineer working on energy and water-savings projects on all IU campuses. He also mentored SPEA students who were interested in careers related to energy conservation or renewable energy. A graduate of Georgia Tech, Charlie has been involved with adult education at St. Mark's United Methodist Church. He also served as treasurer and board member of the Friends of T.C. Steele State Historic Site. During his first term on the board he was IURA secretary, program chair, and president.

Audrey Morgan holds a bachelor's degree from Syracuse University and a master's degree from IUB. She moved here in 1975 when her husband, Mike, accepted a position in the College as a professor of philosophy. Audrey worked at IUB for 31 years, as an editor at the Office of Publications, assistant and associate director of admissions at the IU Admissions Office, and director of undergraduate programs at the Kelley School of Business. She retired in 2008.

Charlie's first three-year term expires this year, and he is up for re-election. Other board members whose terms are expiring are **Steve Hitzeman** and past president **Doug Porter**. Steve has chosen not to seek re-election. Because Doug is completing a second three-year term, he is not eligible for re-election.

Joyce Krothe chaired the nominating committee, which included **Bill McGregor** and **Ralf Shaw**.

Booher looks back, looks forward

“It’s been a peculiar year,” **Doug Booher** told retirees who gathered on Zoom April 14. “When COVID closed IU down, it took six or seven minutes before people started tapping us to see how we could help.” It required a quick pivot in Doug’s duties as director of the Auditorium and of University Events.

Auditorium

“We had a record number of ticket sales at the Auditorium last year,” he said. “Suddenly we had to cancel the rest of the season,” which included some Broadway programs. An incredible gift was the patience and generosity of patrons who held onto their tickets rather than requesting a refund. Only \$60,000 out of a possible \$480,000 had to be refunded. That extra cushion was very helpful.

Although “we’re going to wait a little while longer” to announce next year’s season, Doug promised that David Sedaris, *Waitress*, and *Beautiful: The Carole King Story* all will be back.

Based on a \$4 million budget, losses from COVID are projected to be \$800,000. “Much of that is event-related,” Doug said. But the Auditorium maintained its fulltime staff without furloughs or layoffs. It has applied for a Shuttered Venue Operators grant as part of the Economic Aid Act.

Unable to have shows, the Auditorium turned to livestreaming. More than 30 shows have attracted thousands of viewers. “Some have had as many as we could have housed in the Auditorium,” Doug said.

Open-air venues are another alternative. Six campus corners were set up, along with five performance hubs – everywhere from Dunn Meadow and the Prebys Amphitheater to the green space at 16th Street and Fess. More than 400 programs have been held in these spaces throughout the academic year.

The Auditorium also has been able to offer academic support. “Some large courses can’t be effectively taught online,” Doug said. These courses were moved to the Auditorium, giving professors what he described as a “16-week run on stage” with students socially distanced. The stage was also repurposed for dance, giving dance classes the opportunity to rehearse in a socially distant manner. And the lobbies were used for mitigation testing.

Event services

In 2010 Doug was asked to manage Event Services, which supports 400 university events, from football and basketball to Bryan House and Commencement. Of the 250 employees, half are students. All are trained in safety protocols.

IU followed Big Ten guidelines for athletics events, but “capping out at 400 was very different from 40,000.” Nevertheless, seating, concessions, parking, and gate screening all had to be managed in accordance with public health protocols.

COVID response

On July 29 Doug fielded a request: Could he set up a system for returning students to be tested? Because students were scheduled to start arriving Aug. 9, that task required some scrambling. But over the course of 13 days, 34,764 students – “all students in congregate living” – in 13,000 vehicles were tested. The system was so efficient that students often had their results within 15 minutes. “That testing enabled us to weather the move-in period much better than many of our peers,” Doug reported.

A flu vaccine clinic in late October and early November serviced 20,000 students over the course of two and a half weeks.

On March 29 Assembly Hall became a site for administering the Pfizer vaccination for COVID. “In nine operational days, we’ve given 10,000 shots,” Doug announced. “We expect up to 70,000 by June.”

How will fall look? Although that depends on infection rates, vaccination uptake, and the availability of programs, the entertainment industry is planning a full return. “I am guardedly optimistic that we will be able to present a full program,” Doug said. He believes there will be public demand for hybrid events. “We have a much wider reach when we can go virtual,” he said. “Zoom can reach folks with physical limitations and can overcome distance.”

Because of its response to COVID and the unprecedented cooperation and collegiality across units, “we’re going to become more nimble as an institution,” Doug believes. “We’ve learned that we don’t have to fill out nine pieces of paper.”

Martha Wailes asked about Doug’s responsibilities as an adjunct in the O’Neill School of Public and

Environmental Affairs. “I teach venue management: how to create programs and buy talent,” Doug said. “Each fall I have 25 students, the best hiring opportunity I’ve ever found.” He teaches in the arts administration program, which he believes has found its perfect home in the O’Neill School.

In introducing the speaker, IURA Program Chair **Doug Porter** defined the challenges Doug Booher has faced. “Very little looks normal,” he said, “and you had no precedent to direct you.” Retirees left their Zoom screens grateful that someone with such enthusiasm, energy, and imagination has been in charge. To hear the program online, go to <http://bit.ly/iuradougbooher>

Remembering our friends

Twice a year since 2008, in the April and August issues, Newswatch memorializes members who have died since the last listing. Because of space limitations, only IURA members can be included. A complete list of obituaries is on the IURA website. Please notify the editor (jschroed@indiana.edu, 812-332-5057) of any omissions.

Audrey Hofelich Beckley died Aug. 19, 2020, in Bloomington. She was 77. Audrey was born in Orange, N.J., and grew up in Owensboro, Ky. She earned a bachelor’s degree in medical technology from IU in 1964. Audrey was a medical technologist for 28 years. She retired from Mid America Clinical Laboratories at St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis in 2002. A dedicated community volunteer, she was a member of PEO and the Bloomington Garden Club. With her husband she was immediate past president of the University Club. She received the Gertrude Rich Award from the IU Alumni Association. Her sorority, Gamma Phi Beta, honored her with its lifetime achievement award. The Media School’s television studio is named for her and Ken, her husband of nearly 57 years. Ken, the former president and CEO of the IU Alumni Association, survives.

Charles Davis died Sept. 24, 2020, in Bloomington. He was 82. Born in Tell City, he graduated from Shortridge High School in Indianapolis. While earning a bachelor’s degree in chemistry at IU, he spent a year studying at the University of Munich. He was an editor with the American Chemical Society before returning to IU for a master’s degree in library science and a Ph.D. in information science. Charlie served on the faculties at Drexel University, the

University of Michigan, and the University of Alberta before moving to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign as dean of the graduate school of library and information science. After his retirement, he became an adjunct professor at IU. He was a member of the American Society for Information Science and served as its president. He played clarinet with Bloomington Community Band, Bloomington Symphony Orchestra, and Community Chamber Music Association. Debora “Ralf” Shaw, retired dean of the School of Library and Information Science and his wife of 32 years, survives.

Jon Michael “Mike” Dunn died in Bloomington on April 5. He was 79. Born in Fort Wayne, he received a bachelor’s degree from Oberlin College and earned his Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of Pittsburgh. He came to IU in 1969 and was a faculty member and administrator for nearly 40 years. He twice chaired the philosophy department and was the first executive associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Mike was the founding dean of the School of Informatics, now the Luddy School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering. He authored or coauthored six books and more than 100 papers. He was a fellow of the both the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Council of Learned Societies. He retired in 2007. In retirement he continued his research and enjoyed travel, gardening, historic preservation, opera, and museums. Sally, former dean of IU’s University Division and his wife of nearly 57 years, survives.

Doris Lineberger Fox died in Bloomington on Aug. 9, 2020. She was 92. She grew up in Greenville, S.C., and never lost her Southern accent. She moved to Bloomington with her family in 1967. For 32 years she volunteered at Bloomington Hospital, earning the Volunteer of the Year award. An active advocate for AIDS education and GLBTQ issues, she was the founding president of the Bloomington chapter of PFLAG. In 2014 Doris and her husband, Bob, received the Honor Award from the Rural Center for AIDS/STD Prevention (RCAP).

Robert W. Fox Sr. died in Bloomington on Sept. 12, 2020. He was 91. Bob was born in York, Pa., and served in the U.S. Air Force before earning a bachelor’s degree from Furman University and a master’s degree at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. Bob was executive director of the Agency for Instructional Television and was instrumental in AIT’s winning an Emmy in 1973 for outstanding instructional children’s programming. He

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was an avid golfer. He died 34 days after the death of Doris, his wife of 72 years.

Pamela Kay Werner Freeman died Dec. 27, 2020, in Bloomington. She was 72. Born in Jeffersonville, Ind., she grew up in Charlestown and received bachelor's and master's degrees from Purdue University. She earned a doctorate in educational administration and supervision from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. A former high school teacher, Pam ended her IU career as associate dean of students and director of student ethics and anti-harassment programs. She was also an adjunct professor in the School of Education. A runner who competed in triathlons, she was an accomplished seamstress and cook. Pam was the accompanist for the Quarryland Men's Chorus and the Grateful Divas. She also served as organist for St. Mark's United Methodist Church. She was a board member of Middle Way House. She received many awards for her mentorship and service. Doug, former head of the library at the School of Optometry and her husband of 47 years, survives.

G. Don Gading died Aug. 24, 2020, in Bloomington. He was 84. Born in Goodhue, Minn., Don was a businessman in Indianapolis, owning and operating Brightwood Moving and Storage. Upon his marriage to Josephine "Jo" Daron, he moved to Bloomington. He was president of the University Club and served as First Gentleman when Jo was president of the IURA in 2015-16. Don appreciated folk art and enjoyed woodworking in his basement studio. Jo, former security manager for University Student Systems Service and his wife of 13 years, survives.

Because of space limitations, obituaries for **Ida Medlyn, Mike Metzger, Jack Mulholland,** and **Tony Shipp**s will appear in the May newsletter.

Yet another newsletter: wait for May

At its April 6 meeting the IURA board authorized funds for the printing and mailing of a May newsletter. Because of the disruptions caused by COVID, the IURA has increased the number of newsletters during this academic year from eight to 10.

The May newsletter will include a summary of Bill Bennett's remarks on travel at the May 12 meeting. It also will include a corrected list of IURA members who received IU's Bicentennial Medal. An earlier list, published in December 2020, was incomplete. Names are still being added, with more than twice as many recipients being listed now than in December.

Join live art show on Zoom April 30

The Emeriti House is sponsoring a Zoom Show and Tell of the artwork members have created. Plan to join on Friday, April 30, from 3 to 5 p.m. Here's the link: <https://iu.zoom.us/j/81569799266>

About this newsletter

Editor **Judy Schroeder** writes *Newswatch* eight times each year (10 in 2021), August through April. For comments or corrections, please contact her at jschroed@indiana.edu. To correct your address, please contact **Doris Wittenburg**, database manager, at dwittenb@indiana.edu.