



EXCELLENCE



Newsletter of the Alliance of Distinguished and Titled Professors

Hofstadter triple honoree

Doug Hofstadter becomes first IU faculty member to receive such an honor

Doug Hofstadter (BL), Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor of Cognitive Science, has become the first faculty member in IU history to hold fellowships in APS and AAAS and to have won a Pulitzer Prize as well. This prestigious honor places him among a group of 16 people worldwide with the same distinction.

Professor Hofstadter was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in April and American Philosophical Society in May of this year.

Other APS members from IU are **Richard Shiffrin** (BL), Distinguished Professor and Luther Dana Waterman Professor of Psychological and Brain Sciences, **Larry Einhorn** (IN), Distinguished Professor and Lance Armstrong Foundation Professor of Oncology, **Fedwa Malti-Douglas** (BL), The Martha C. Kraft Professor of Humanities in the College of Arts and Sciences, and **Elinor Ostrom** (BL), Arthur F. Bentley Professor of Political Science.

Professor Hofstadter won the 1980 Pulitzer Prize and American Book Award for his first book, *Gödel, Escher, Bach: an Eternal Golden braid*.

Hofstadter is professor of cognitive science and also directs the Fluid Analogies Research Group at the Center

of Research on Concepts and Cognition.

For more information, please go to:

<http://newsinfo.iu.edu/news/page/print/10808.html>

Additional Fellows

Carl Bauer (BL), Class of '54 Endowed Professor (Biology) and **Stanley Spinola** (IN), David H. Jacobs Professor of Infectious Disease, have been elected fellows of the American Academy of Microbiology (AAM). Fellows are elected each year "through a highly selective, peer-review process based on their records of scientific achievement and original contributions that have advanced microbiology," according to the AAM.

For more information go to:

<http://newsinfo.iu.edu/news/page/print/9936.html>

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Michael Lynch (BL), Distinguished Professor, Department of Biology, has been elected a fellow of the National Academy of Sciences. Lynch has made numerous contributions to the field of evolutionary genomics, which studies how large segments of DNA and even whole chromosomes are organized, as well as how large-scale organization has changed as the result of natural selection - and also "neutral," random and undirected processes.

For more information go to:
<http://newsinfo.iu.edu/news/page/print/10740.html>

Alex Vespignani (BL), Rudy Professor, School of Informatics, has been elected to fellowship in the American Physical Society. Vespignani was honored for his contribution to the statistical physics of complex networks, in particular his seminal work on the spreading of viruses in real networks. Vespignani joined the School of Informatics faculty in 2004 and has been teaching and conducting research in the school's complex systems program since then.

For more information go to:
<http://newsinfo.iu.edu/news/page/print/9415.html>

Broome receives Federal appointment

Marion E. Broome (IN), Dean and Distinguished Professor, School of Nursing, has been appointed to the US Department of Defense Health Board (DHB) Health Care Delivery Subcommittee. The Health Board is a Federal Advisory Committee to the Secretary of Defense providing independent scientific advice/recommendations on matters relating to operational programs, health policy development, health research programs, and requirements for the treatment and prevention of disease and injury, promotion of health and the delivery of health care to Department of Defense beneficiaries.

For more information go to:
<http://info.iupui.edu/news/page/normal/3752.html>

Verdy awarded France's highest decoration

Violette Verdy (BL), Distinguished Professor (Ballet) in the Jacobs School of Music, has been named a Chevalier (Knight) in France's National Order of the Legion of Honor, an award from President M. Nicolas Sarkozy. The order is France's highest decoration.

In a recent interview, Professor Verdy was quoted as saying "I was totally taken by surprise, honored and delighted. My whole family has great respect for the order. The men in the family have gone to war. We always thought it was reserved for military heroes, and I never thought of it for myself. I'm amazed; I'm really amazed and deeply, deeply touched."

The National Order of the Legion of Honor - the first modern order of merit - was established by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1802.

For more information go to:
<http://newsinfo.iu.edu/news/page/print/9826.html>

Sumit Ganguly receives India's national honor

Indian President Pratibha Patil and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh presented **Sumit**

Ganguly (BL), Rabindranath Tagore Professor of Indian Cultures and Civilizations, the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award, one of the highest honors that can be bestowed upon an Indian living abroad. The award was given at the closing events of the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention to distinguished overseas Indians for their contributions toward better understanding of India abroad, welfare of the Indian diaspora, scholarly and intellectual contributions and philanthropic work for social and humanitarian causes in India and abroad.

He was nominated for the award by Ronen Sen, India's ambassador to the United States.

For more information go to: <http://newsinfo.iu.edu/news/page/print/9569.html>

2009 Fall Dinner

The 2009 Alliance fall meeting and dinner will be held in Bloomington at the Indiana Memorial Union Building on **Monday, September 21, 2009**. President Michael McRobbie and Provost Karen Hanson will be hosting the event.

Be sure to mark your calendars now and plan to attend. You

will be receiving more information in late summer.

Alliance Elections

The Alliance will be holding elections for Steering Committee members and Co-chairs in late summer prior to the annual Fall meeting and dinner. If you wish to nominate someone, please do so immediately by contacting Janet at the Alliance office. The deadline is July 1, 2009.

Web Redesign

The creation of the Alliance's new web design is still in the planning stages. If you have ideas or suggestions, we encourage you to please forward them to the Alliance office (alliance@indiana.edu).

Special Honors and Awards

The following members have received special recognition in their field. They are:

Peter Bondanella (BL), Distinguished Professor Emeritus of comparative

literature, film studies and Italian, has been elected to the European Academy of Sciences and Arts, based in Salzburg, Austria. Bondanella is the first IU scholar to be inducted into the academy which is an interdisciplinary network of scholars from various fields who focus on scientific, social, cultural and ethical issues concerning the region.

David E. Clemmer (BL), Robert and Marjorie Mann Chair of Chemistry, is the recipient of the 2009 Tracy M. Sonneborn Award, established in 1985 by the Dean of the Faculties office to honor an IU professor who has achieved distinction as a teacher and as a scholar or artist. The Sonneborn Award is named for the late Tracy M. Sonneborn, an IU Biologist and Distinguished Professor, who was a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of the Arts and Sciences, and the American Philosophical Society. (For more information go to: <http://newsinfo.iu.edu/news/page/normal/10601.html>)

Howard J. Edenberg (IN), Chancellor's Professor, Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and Medical and Molecular Genetics has been selected to receive the Distinguished Researcher Award for 2009 from the

Research Society on Alcoholism. The award will be presented at the 2009 Annual meeting in June, and he will present a plenary lecture on his research.

Susan Gubar (BL), Distinguished Professor, Department of English, was recently recognized with the New York Times Editors' Choice Award for her book, *Judas: A Biography*. (For more information go to: <http://newsinfo.iu.edu/web/page/normal/10497.html>)

Dov-Ber Kerler (BL), Dr. Alice Field Cohn Chair in Yiddish Studies and **Jeffrey Veidlinger** (BL), Alvin H. Rosenfeld Chair in Jewish Studies, have received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to preserve and annotate oral histories they collected from Yiddish-speaking residents of Eastern Europe and make the material available to scholars, educators and to the public. On 10 expeditions, the two recorded more than 750 hours of interviews with 350 elderly people who grew up speaking Yiddish in the years before World War II. (For more information go to: <http://newsinfo.iu.edu/news/page/print/10774.html>)

Susan McDonald (BL), Distinguished Professor, Jacobs School of Music, is the recipient

of a Lifetime Service Award by the World Harp Congress, an organization that she helped to form.

Douglas B. McKeag (IN), OneAmerica Professor of Preventive Health Medicine, was invited to Nepal to be a consultant for "Health & Ed 4 Nepal," a non-profit organization dedicated to building and staffing a medical clinic and to improve school facilities and educational opportunities. (For more information go to: <http://www.healthanded4nepal.org/index.html>)

Michael McRobbie, President and 2007 Alliance Honorary Member, has been elected to the Board of Trustees of Internet2, the foremost advanced networking consortium in the United States. McRobbie joins a group of leaders from academia, research and industry charged with providing strategic guidance, directing the setting of priorities, and ensuring that Internet2 continues to meet the needs of the research and education community. (For more information go to: <http://newsinfo.iu.edu/news/page/print/10305.html>)

John I. Nurnberger, Jr. (IN), Joyce and Iver Small Professor of Psychiatry, is the recipient of the 2009 Glenn W. Irwin, Jr.,

M.D. Research Scholar Award. The award is IUPUI's highest recognition of outstanding continuing research by a colleague. The award recognizes the outstanding achievements of Dr. Irwin, Jr., as Professor, Dean of the School of Medicine, Chancellor of the Indianapolis Campus, and Vice President of Indiana University.

Menahem Pressler (BL), Distinguished Professor and Dean Charles H. Webb Chair in Music, was awarded a 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award from The Edison Foundation on behalf of the Beaux Art Trio. A renowned pianist, Pressler is a founding member of the trio. The Edison Award is the oldest and most prestigious music award in the Netherlands, comparable to a Grammy Award. (For more information go to: <http://newsinfo.iu.edu/news/page/print/10778.html>)

George W. Sledge Jr. (IN), Ballvé Lantero Professor of Oncology, a nationally recognized pioneer in the development of novel therapies for breast cancer, has been elected to become president of the American Society of Clinical Oncology for a one-year term beginning in June 2010. (For more information go to: <http://www.medicine.indiana.edu>)

u/news_releases/viewRelease.ph
p4?art=1004)

Sheldon Stryker (BL), Distinguished Professor (Sociology) has won the W.E.B. Dubois Career of Distinguished Scholarship Award from the American Sociological Association. The Award honors scholars who have shown outstanding commitment to the profession of sociology and whose cumulative work has contributed in important ways to the advancement of the discipline. (For more information go to: <http://newsinfo.iu.edu/news/page/print/9754.html>)

David Weaver (BL), Roy W. Howard Research Professor in the School of Journalism, recently served as Roy H. Park Distinguished Visiting Professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. While there, he taught a seminar on agenda setting research and conducted research on the role of the news media in the 2008 presidential election.

Dean Emeritus Charles H. Webb (BL), Alliance Honorary Member, has been honored by The Indianapolis Symphonic Choir as the inaugural recipient of the Elmer Steffen Founder's Award. The recognition is named in honor of Elmer Steffen

who served as the first conductor of the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir in 1937. (For more information go to: <http://info.music.indiana.edu/web/page/normal/10204.html>)

NOTE: If you wish to have your award or special recognition included in the next issue of Excellence, please email the information to alliance@indiana.edu

New Members

We welcome the following new members to the Alliance since the December 2008 issue of Excellence.

Erna Alant (BL), Otting Endowed Chair in Special Education

Steven A. Gottlieb (BL), Distinguished Professor (Physics Department)

Robert J. Havlik (IN), James Joseph Harbaugh, Jr. Professor of Plastic Surgery

Kurt Kroenke (IN), Chancellor's Professor, IU School of Medicine

Shaul Magid (BL), Jay and Jeanie Schottenstein Chair in Jewish Studies

Harikrishna Nakshatri (IN), Marian J. Morrison Professor of Breast Cancer Research

Obioma N. Nnaemeka (IN), Chancellor's Professor of French and Women's Studies

Lisa Pratt (BL), Provost's Professor (Geological Sciences). *This title is the former Chancellor's Professor at IUB.

Aina Puce (BL), Eleanor Cox Riggs Professor (Psychological and Brain Sciences)

Alessandro Vespignani (BL), Rudy Professor (School of Informatics)

Dror Wahrman (BL), Ruth N. Halls Professor, Department of History

Wayne L. Winston (BL), John & Esther Reese Professor, Kelley School of Business

Marianne S. Wokeck (IN), Chancellor's Professor (Department of History)

Members who have received new or additional titles:

William Newman (BL), Distinguished Professor (additional title) and Ruth N. Halls Professor of History and Philosophy of Science

James L. Perry (BL),

Distinguished Professor
(additional title) and
Chancellor's Professor of Public
and Environmental Affairs

Douglas K. Rex (IN),
Distinguished Professor
(additional title) and
Chancellor's Professor of
Medicine in the Division of
Gastroenterology and
Hepatology in the School of
Medicine

Pravin Trivedi (BL),
Distinguished Professor
(additional title) and Rudy
Professor of Economics

In Memoriam

The Alliance wishes to extend their deepest sympathy to the families and friends of the following members who have recently passed away.

Henry H.H. Remak (BL), 2000
Alliance Honorary Member

Stephen D. Williams (IN), H.H.
Gregg Professor of Oncology

Profiles in Excellence

The Alliance would like to thank
David Ransel and David Malik

for agreeing to be profiled.

Member Profile I

David J. Malik (IN),
Chancellor's Professor of
Chemistry and Chemical
Biology and Interim Executive
Vice Chancellor for Academic
Affairs at IU Northwest. His
research was originally in
theoretical chemistry but more
recently, his work has shifted to
issues of academic
administration and the
pedagogy of chemical
education including placement
efficacies and peer-led team
learning strategies.

*Q. What are your research
interests? Your mission?*

A. My research has morphed
from work in intermolecular
interactions and quantum
mechanics in my early career,
to work in pedagogical methods
in teaching and learning. Our
focus in the pedagogy was to
improve student success and
facility in chemistry
understanding and application.
Our work in active learning and
peer-led team learning has led
to raising student success in
chemistry from about 50% to
over 80% while maintaining the
same level of proficiency.

*Q. You have been involved in
administration in the last
several years. How does this
related to your scholarship?*

A. The best advice I received
in my first year as a faculty
member was do things that had
consequence and that lead to
tangible evidence or outcomes.
My administrative work has led
to publications and funding
which, I hope, have favorably
impacted chairs or
administrators to improve their
practice and efficacy. This work
has proven useful in my most
recent role as Executive Vice
Chancellor at IU Northwest and
has given me a different vision
of the importance of higher
education that transcends by
original disciplinary
perspective.

*Q. Speak to the meaning of
excellence in your life and work
and how you foster excellence
in your associates and
colleagues.*

A. One of the biggest problems
in the academy is recognition of
faculty success. The task for
administrators is to facilitate
the success of other and
encouragement of excellence
and accomplishment. A
corollary to this is ensuring the
value of talented faculty does
not get lost, but celebrated, so
they may serve as role models
for our best work.

Q. Mention any special honors.

A. Less an honor, and more a challenge, has been work in my professional society, the American Chemical Society, when we addressed a re-examination of education and the vision for molecular sciences. This Task Force brought together experts from many disciplines to explore what the discipline was doing and how we might improve its future. Participation in this venture was rewarding and illuminating.

Q. What are your interests outside of University work?

A. I love language and its structure, and continue to struggle to learn speaking and writing Mandarin Chinese. The conception of the language and the attractiveness of its cultural history have been engaging and inspiring. I imagine a longer visit will result when I retire...

Member Profile II

David L. Ransel (BL), Robert F. Byrnes Professor of History and Director of the Russian and East European Institute at Indiana University, is a specialist on the history of politics,

society, and family in Russia.

Q. What are your research interests? Your mission?

A. My research has focused on the history and ethnography of Russia with particular interest in the role of family in society and the state. My earliest work sought to make visible the importance of family and clientele groups in governing Russia. I argued that law and administrative order served as a thin cover for what was effectively a politics of personal clienteles bound by private and family allegiances. While my first monograph examined this issue in the reign of Catherine the Great, the principle applied in other periods, as I demonstrated in a number of shorter studies.

My second major monograph investigated a pathology of family life, child abandonment, including its causes and consequences, and the response of the Russian state. The study viewed Russia in comparison with other European states and revealed that Russia had created by far the largest system in Europe for processing foundlings. Started in the 18th century, this charity soon became an industry in which village women for a fee fostered nearly 100,000 children at any one time, the vast majority of whom died

within a short time: a perishable commodity in an economic nexus between the cities and surrounding villages. This study of a huge social problem startled Soviet historians, who had not bothered to look into it, and opened the field of the history of philanthropy in Russia. This work also illuminated the lives of poor women in Russia and contributed to the sub-discipline of women's history that was just opening at the time. It also convinced me of the importance of adding to the grand narrative of history the voices of ordinary people like the women who had been caught up in the foundling system in their efforts to dispose of unwanted children and earn enough to survive by nursing and fostering children abandoned by others.

As the Soviet Union began to collapse at the end of the 1980s, I was able to get into the field for ethnographic work (it had been forbidden to foreigners in Soviet times). I wanted to interview village women to learn how their ideas and practices of courtship, marriage, child birth, abortion, and child care had changed in the course of the 20th century. I had observed in vital statistics a sharp difference in the survival rates of children of different ethnic groups and hoped to discover from women directly

the reasons for this and to add their voices to the history of 20th century Russia. I collected 100 interviews from Russian, Tatar, and Jewish village women of three generations and produced a monograph, *Village Mothers: Three Generations of Change in Russia and Tataria*, one of the first ethnographic studies on Russian village life done by a foreigner.

Early this year I published a new monograph. This one describes the family life of the Russian merchant class in the late 18th century. A rare, 1000-page diary of a provincial merchant, the mayor of his small town, came to my attention a few years ago in the archives of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Since we know almost nothing about the daily life of Russian merchants in early times, I spent several summers going through the archives of the merchant's hometown and of the city of Moscow, where he later moved, to discover the context for his diary entries and the lives of his family and friends. What I found about merchant life substantially alters the views historians have long held about this poorly researched social class.

My current investigations include another ethnographic study, this time of two generations of Moscow workers, their values, allegiances, and social ties, based on 60 some

interviews collected in recent years. I am also doing another historical study of travel and national identity in the 18th century.

Q. Talk about your department and where it fits into your research.

A. This summer I complete 30 consecutive years of administrative service in a series of departments. Although my home department is History, much of my time has been devoted to other offices. From 1979 to 1985 I was editor in chief of the *Slavic Review*, the leading North American scholarly journal for Russian and East European studies, where I sought to create interdisciplinary intellectual projects. From 1985 to 1995 I served as editor in chief of the *American Historical Review* with two principal goals. This flagship professional journal had been lagging behind the field generally, and I sought, first, to bring to it the latest work on the powerful new "linguistic turn" in historical studies and, second, to mainstream women's history, an increasingly vibrant field that was contributing not only new findings but also new theory.

From 1995 until this year I have been director of the Russian and East European Institute,

IU's oldest and largest area studies center and currently the top ranked center of its kind in the country. It boasts a core faculty of 60 language-qualified area specialists and a highly respected master's degree program that furnishes hundreds of young experts to government, academic administration, library and information systems, non-governmental international organizations, and private business. The students must demonstrate proficiency in languages of the region, plus command of the politics, economics, and cultures of the peoples of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. The institute also prepares undergraduate and PhD minors, organizes workshops, conferences and other events on topics of importance, seeks grants, and does outreach to schools, business, and government.

Q. Speak to the meaning of excellence in your life and work and how you foster excellence in your associates and colleagues.

A. Apart from my own writings, excellence has found its most powerful expression in my work as editor of major journals and also of a number of volumes of collected essays and translations. I sought out the strongest intellectual

contributions and then worked closely with authors to shape their ideas and language to create the most instructive and powerful presentation possible of their findings and theories. The knowledge and practices that I acquired in those tasks carried over to my work with students. I require weekly writing assignments in my classes, even in my 100-level survey courses, and edit them line-by-line, and at the Russian and East European Institute for the last decade and a half I have annually supervised a dozen master's theses, working with the students to perfect their arguments and written expression and to bring them as close as possible to the level required for publication in professional journals. Indeed, a number of the theses have been published.

Q. Mention any special honors.

A. I was president of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies and served on the governing boards of this organization and of the American Historical Association. I am a recipient of a number of research fellowships, including the Guggenheim, Fulbright, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Kennan Institute, International Researches and Exchanges Board, National Endowment for the Humanities,

and the Bogliasco Foundation. I serve on the editorial boards of seven national and international journals. .

Q. What are your interests outside of research?

A. My avocations include classical guitar (I play with a local ensemble), running, swimming, kayaking, birding, and hiking.

Letters to the Editor

The Steering Committee invites the general membership to contribute "letters to the editor." The topics should be related to the mission of the Alliance. Given our sparse publication schedule, the letters should address concerns that will be of relevance after a delay of weeks or months. Such letters provide a means for members not on the Steering Committee to play a role in setting policy and priorities, and we encourage you to make such a contribution. Please send letters to the Alliance office, Poplars 823, IUB, Fax: 812-855-5767 or email to alliance@indiana.edu

**Fall Dinner to be held
on Monday, September
21, 2009, Bloomington**

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