Two Alliance members awarded 2011 Guggenheim Fellowships

George Hutchinson and Olaf Sporns receive prestigious Fellowships

George B. Hutchinson (BL), Booth Tarkington Chair of Literary Studies, and neuroscientist Olaf Sporns (BL), newly appointed Provost Professor, Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, along with poet Maurice Walker Manning (BL), were awarded the prestigious John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship for 2011.

Hutchinson is an adjunct professor of both American Studies and African American and African Diaspora studies and is beginning work on a book tentatively titled *In a Dark Time: American literature and culture in the 1940s*.

Sporns, author of the recently released *Networks of the Brain*, received his Fellowship for a project entitled “The Human Connectome,” which refers to a project intent on creating a complete map of the connections of the human brain.

Sporns, Manning and Hutchinson are among 180 selected from a field of more than 3,000 applicants. Fellows are chosen from among a wide range of scholarly disciplines; selections are based upon prior achievement and exceptional promise, according to the Guggenheim Foundation, which was established in 1925.

The professors, all in IU's College of Arts and Sciences, bring the number of Guggenheim Fellows from IU Bloomington to 136.

For more information, please go to: [http://newsinfo.iu.edu/news/page/normal/18271.html](http://newsinfo.iu.edu/news/page/normal/18271.html)

IU Personalized Medicine Institute created

David A. Flockhart (IN), Harry and Edith Gladstein Professor of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics and Director of the Division of Clinical Pharmacology, has been named director of the newly created Indiana Institute
for Personalized Medicine. The Institutes’ members will be drawn from the IU schools of medicine, informatics and nursing, with $11.25 million in funding provided by the School of Medicine, the school’s Department of Medicine, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, the Indiana Physician Scientist Initiative (funded by a $60 million grant from the Lilly Endowment) and the Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Cancer Center.

Building on modern research techniques that have made it possible to decipher the genetic code, detect slight genetic differences between patients and determine how those affect the way the body metabolizes drugs, physicians are beginning to be able to select more appropriate treatments for individual patients.

“Much of the future of health care is personalized medicine, meaning more precise targeting of the right medication to the right patient at the right time,” Dr. Flockhart was quoted as saying.

For more information, please go to: http://homepages.indiana.edu/web/page/normal/17368.html

21 IU SOM Physicians recognized

America’s Top Doctors for Cancer recognized 21 IU School of Medicine Physicians as best in their field.

They are: John Coleman, III, James E. Bennett Professor of Plastic Surgery; Lawrence Einhorn, Distinguished Professor and Lance Armstrong Foundation Professor of Oncology; Robert J. Fallon, Zachary E. Klingler Professor of Pediatrics; Valerie P. Jackson, Eugene C. Klatte Professor of Radiology; Michael O. Koch, John P. Donohue Professor of Urology; Keith D. Lillemoe, Jay L. Grosfeld Professor of Surgery; Patrick J. Loehrer, Sr., H. H. Gregg Professor of Oncology; Frederick J. Rescorla, Lafayette F. Page Professor of Pediatric Surgery; Douglas K. Rex, Distinguished Professor and Chancellor's Professor of Gastroenterology Medicine; Scott A. Shapiro, Robert L. Campbell Professor of Neurological Surgery; George W. Sledge, Jr., Ballvé Lantero Professor of Oncology; Frederick Stehman, Clarence E. Ehrlich Professor Emeritus of Obstetrics & Gynecology; and Thomas M. Ulbright, Lawrence M. Roth Professor of Pathology.

Others recognized are: James Croop (pediatric hematology/oncology); Sherif Farag (hematology); Richard Foster (urology); Robert Goulet, Jr. (Surgery); Paul Haut (pediatric hematology/oncology); David Plager (ophthalmology); Chandru Sundaram (urology) and Terry Vik (pediatric hematology-oncology).

Susan Gubar admitted to APS

Susan Gubar (BL), Ruth N. Halls Professor Emerita and Distinguished Professor Emerita, Department of English, and pioneering feminist literary and cultural critic, has been admitted to the prestigious American Philosophical Society, the oldest society in the country.

She is the 21st IU faculty member or alumnus to be admitted to the society. Current active members who are IU professors or alums are: Richard M. Shiffrin (BL), (1999, psychology), Distinguished Professor and Luther Dana Waterman Professor of Psychological and
Brain Sciences; Lawrence H. Einhorn (IN), (2001, medicine); Fedwa Malti-Douglas (BL), (2004, gender studies, comparative literature, law); Elinor Ostrom (BL), (2006, social and political science); Doug Hofstadter (BL), (2009, cognitive science).

Some of the past members include Tracy Sonneborn (admitted in 1952); Herman B Wells (1964) and James Watson (1977).

The American Philosophical Society was founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1743, recognizes extraordinary achievements in five classes of academic disciplines: mathematical and physical sciences; biological sciences; social sciences; humanities; and the arts, professions, and public and private affairs.

The society promotes useful knowledge in the sciences and humanities through excellence in scholarly research, professional meetings, publications, library resources and community outreach. Its membership has included some of the world's greatest thinkers, such as John J. Audubon, Robert Fulton, Charles Darwin, Thomas Edison, Alexander von Humboldt, Louis Pasteur, Albert Einstein, Robert Frost, George C. Marshall, Linus Pauling, Marie Curie and Margaret Mead.

For more information, please go to: http://newsinfo.iu.edu/news/page/print/18501.html

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2011 Alliance Fall Dinner

The 2011 Alliance Fall meeting and dinner will be held on Monday, October 3, 2011, in Bloomington at the Indiana Memorial Union. President Michael McRobbie and Bloomington Provost Karen Hanson will be hosting the event. The general business meeting will begin at 5:00 p.m. in the University Club 150 followed by a reception at 6:00 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 in the Tudor Room.

Please mark your calendars now and plan to attend. You will be receiving more information later this summer about the event.

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Special Honors and Awards

Richard DiMarchi (BL), Jack and Linda Gill Chair in Biomolecular Science; Standiford H. Cox Professor of Chemistry, is the recipient of the R. Bruce Merrifield Award for 2011 from the American Peptide Society. The Merrifield Award recognizes the lifetime achievement of a peptide scientist, whose work exemplifies the highest level of scientific creativity.

Alexander Kerr (BL), Linda and Jack Gill Chair in Violin, has been appointed concertmaster of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra effective September 1, 2011. The concertmaster chair has been vacant since former Emanuel Borok retired in August 2010. Kerr will maintain his post as full-time professor of music at the Jacobs School.

George Kuh (BL). Chancellor’s Professor Emeritus of Higher Education, will have a prestigious award named in his honor. The National Association for Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education (NASPA) will award the first George D. Kuh Award for Outstanding Contribution to Literature.
and/or Research at their 2012 spring annual conference. Kuh is a past recipient of the award in 1987 that now bears his name.

**Paul Newman (BL)**, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Department of Linguistics, received a Fulbright Specialists Award in Law.

**Menahem Pressler (BL)**, Distinguished Professor of Piano, has been named the winner of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the 2011 International Classical Music Awards. The International Classical Music Awards are the pre-eminent awards for classical music on an international level. A founding member and pianist of the Beaux Arts Trio, Menahem Pressler has established himself among the world’s most distinguished and honored musicians, with a career that spans six decades.

For more information, please go to: [http://newsinfo.iu.edu/news/page/print/18257.html](http://newsinfo.iu.edu/news/page/print/18257.html)

**William M. Tierney (IN)**, Chancellor’s Professor and Sam Regenstrief Professor of Health Services Research and President and CEO of the Regenstrief Institute, received a 2011 Distinguished Investigator Award at the Clinical and Translational Research and Education Meeting in April in Washington D.C. Dr. Tierney was presented with the National Award for Career Achievement and Contribution to Clinical and Translational Science. The Award is presented to a senior investigator who has had national impact by virtue of contributions to clinical and translational science.

**Sara C. Pryor (BL)**, Provost Professor of Atmospheric Science, has been named to the new National Climate Assessment and Development Committee, convened by the U.S. Department of Commerce’s National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to help the U.S. government prepare for and deal with climate change.

For more information, please go to: [http://newsinfo.iu.edu/news/page/print/17566.html](http://newsinfo.iu.edu/news/page/print/17566.html)

**New Members**

We welcome the following new members to the Alliance since the January 2011 issue of Excellence.

**Colin Allen (BL)**, Provost Professor of Cognitive Science and of History & Philosophy of Science

**Lisa Blomgren Bingham (BL)**, Keller-Runden Chair in Public Service

**Kevin D. Brown (BL)**, Richard S. Melvin Professor of Law

**Hannah L. Buxbaum (BL)**, John Schiller Professor of Legal Ethics

**Geoffrey C. Fox (BL)**, Distinguished Professor of Informatics, Computing, and Physics

**Glenn Gass (BL)**, Provost Professor of Music

**Susan J. Gunst (IN)**, Chancellor’s Professor of Medicine

**Mark D. Janis (BL)**, Robert A. Lucas Professor of Law

**Dawn E. Johnsen (BL)**, Walter Foskett Professor of Law

**Reuben Kapur (IN)**, Frieda and Albrecht Kipp Professor in Pediatrics

**Michael J. Larsen (BL)**, Distinguished Professor of Mathematics
Profiles in Excellence

The Alliance would like to thank Tatiana Foroud and Douglas B. McKeag for agreeing to be profiled.

Member Profile I

Tatiana Foroud (IN) is Chancellor's Professor and P. Michael Conneally Professor of Medical and Molecular Genetics. Her research focuses on the identification of genes that increase the risk for common diseases such as Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, bipolar disorder, alcoholism, osteoporosis, primary pulmonary hypertension and familial intracranial aneurysm.

Q. What are your research interests? Your mission?

A. I am a statistical geneticist and my overall goal and mission is to identify genes that influence why particular
individuals develop a disease. Over the years, my focus has come to lie heavily in the study of neurodegenerative disorders, such as Alzheimer disease, Parkinson disease and Huntington disease, but I am also involved in the study of other disorders such as alcoholism and osteoporosis.

There are several practical implications to the identification of genes and risk factors that influence disease susceptibility. The first and foremost is the ability to potentially identify individuals at greatest risk, long before they develop symptoms of disease. The hope is that through interventions, including lifestyle changes or future pharmacologic treatments, an individual can delay or avoid the development of the disease. Another very important practical implication is the ability to use this information in the design and development of better drugs. Finally, understanding the genetic contributions to a disease has important implications for other family members.

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

A. I am in the Department of Medical and Molecular Genetics in the Indiana University School of Medicine. I first came to the department as a graduate student and then joined the faculty in 1994. My department is the most logical home for someone with my research interests. Not only are there other faculty who also study disease risk from a computational angle, but I also have the opportunity to interact with faculty whose research is focused on designing experiments to understand how the genes we identify using statistical methods actually affect the biology underlying the disease pathogenesis.

I also teach a course within our department to students in the genetic counseling program. I find this particularly rewarding since I am able to teach the students about my research and directly discuss with them how results from statistical genetic research will quickly make its way into clinical practice and the counseling challenges that will result.

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

A. As a researcher, I believe we are given an amazing opportunity to pursue our scientific passion and try to make a difference in the care of others. It is essential that to meet this goal, we must subject all the data we work with to the highest standards of review. This can be time consuming and laborious, but the alternative, to publish a flawed result, is unacceptable. I have found that when working with colleagues and students, illustrating the potential outcomes of faulty research are sufficient to motivate everyone to do their best.

Q. Mention any special honors.

A. There is one honor that means a great deal to me. In 2005, I was named the first P. Michael Conneally Professor of Medical and Molecular Genetics. Dr. Conneally was the advisor for my graduate studies. He convinced me to stay at Indiana University and join the faculty. He then was a superb mentor who introduced me to others in my field in the international community and who always counseled me to do my very best and always dig deeper into my data. He has become a close friend and when I was chosen to be honored with a professorship in his name it meant a great deal to me and my family.

Q. What are your interests outside of research?

A. I am the mother of three sons, ranging in age from kindergarten to high school. I have always found it essential to balance my time and focus on both science and my family. The rewards in both are
enormous and when I feel I am doing my best in each, it gives me great personal satisfaction. This is not to say it is easy – and we can’t do them all well all the time – but we can only do our best.

Q. Finally, is there anything of human interest that you may want to share with the members?

A. I am committed to service within our community and have found this to be very rewarding, particularly when I can also tie this to my family. I have recently joined the Science Committee at my sons’ school, St. Richard’s Episcopal School, where I have had the opportunity to learn and provide feedback on approaches to teach science within the elementary school curriculum. Recently, I was one of several parents who presented about my research at a school assembly. It was great fun watching the students roll their tongue, look for attached ear lobes, check for a widow’s peak and then ask – does my parent have this too? This past fall, I also was invited to give a lecture on behavior genetics to high school seniors at an Indianapolis Public School (IPS). I found the experience to be both humbling and inspiring. It was challenging to prepare a lecture that would excite them about genetics – but I very much enjoyed the reaction when they understood the concepts I was trying to convey.

My specific research interests to this day include the treatment of concussion in athletes of all ages, the pediatric athlete, and healthcare reform in the State of Indiana. I returned to my interests in healthcare reform and sports medicine.

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

A. The Department of Family Medicine has become the home of primary care sports medicine within the system that is Indiana University. Our department houses a fellowship program, as well as numerous faculty members with research interests in sports medicine. As a group we act as consultants for the system in all matters that are primary care sports medicine.

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

A. I have been an educator all of my life and feel very strongly that teaching and mentoring are two of the most important things that can be done by academicians. With much of
academic medicine now becoming productivity based, it is a true challenge to keep education and teaching at a high priority. My mission, if you will, is to make sure that it is maintained here at Indiana University. I’ve had the great honor to be recognized for the excellence in my career on a national level. I’ve also had the great honor to be part of the Indiana University faculty and to help foster excellence in those who will come after me.

Q. Mention any special honors.

A. Special honors include:

♦ Being recognized as one of Indy’s Top Doctors by Indianapolis Monthly Magazine;

♦ receiving Citation Award in recognition of pioneering achievements in defining, practicing, teaching, organizing, and bringing to universal recognition the discipline of primary-care sports medicine in the United States by the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM);

♦ being honored several weeks ago at the American Medical Society for Sports Medicine (AMSSM) Annual Meeting as a co-founder of said organization and as its past president;

♦ receiving the Essence of IUPUI Outstanding Faculty Award;

♦ being named medical consultant to OneAmerica® Financial Partners, Inc. in Indianapolis;

♦ appointed by Governor Mitch Daniels to serve on the Indiana Healthcare Reform Task Force Executive Committee; and

♦ being appointed Director of the Indiana Schweitzer Fellowship Program.

Q. What are your interests outside of research?

A. Outside interests of mine include salmon fishing, mountain hiking, gardening around the house.

Q. Finally, is there anything of human interest that you may want to share with the members?

I am especially proud of my time here at Indiana University in helping to create a global health initiative in Honduras. The program is the principle charitable project of the Department of Family Medicine, and is part of a program to educate medical students and others in global health. As a result of this initiative, a regional medical center has been built in central Honduras which will soon provide healthcare for people of 60 mountain villages that never had healthcare in the past.

In addition, I was one of the initial responders to the 2010 Haitian earthquake and worked with the United Nations for approximately one week.
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

Monday
October 3, 2011, in Bloomington

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