Dr. Marion Broome receives President’s Medal

Indiana University President Michael A. McRobbie presented the President's Medal for Excellence to Dr. Marion E. Broome, former dean and distinguished professor at the Indiana University School of Nursing.

Broome became university dean of the IU School of Nursing in 2004. Under her leadership, the nursing school was consistently named among the top 10 schools of nursing in the country by the National Institutes of Health and in the top 15 graduate schools by US News & World Report. She oversaw the construction of new educational facilities and the expansion of programs to help address the nursing shortage.

Broome is a national leader in pediatric nursing, and her research and publications have made an enormous difference in the quality of life for countless children suffering from acute and chronic pain.

Broome became dean of the School of Nursing at Duke University, Durham, N.C. Aug. 1.

-per IU news release

Three Faculty Members named fellows of AAAS

Three faculty members from Indiana University have been named fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a distinction that recognizes outstanding contributions to the progress of science and research. The 2014 fellows are Edward J. Berbari, Chancellor’s Professor and chair of the biomedical engineering department at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis; Thomas Sterling, professor of computer science in the School of Informatics and Computing at Indiana University Bloomington; and P. Sarita Soni, professor emerita in the School of Optometry at IU Bloomington.
Indiana University President Michael A. McRobbie has presented the President’s Medal for Excellence to two highly distinguished IU faculty members, George Kuh and Richard Shiffrin.

McRobbie made the presentation Tuesday at the 2014 Academic Excellence Reception and Dinner at Alumni Hall in the Indiana Memorial Union. The annual event honors Indiana University faculty members who have received prestigious awards or been named to academic honor organizations.

Kuh is Chancellor’s Professor Emeritus in the School of Education and director of the National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment. He is widely known as a scholar of student engagement and institutional quality in higher education.

Shiffrin is Distinguished Professor and Luther Dana Waterman Professor of Psychological and Brain Sciences in the College of Arts and Sciences. Widely known for his contributions to cognitive science, he also directs the department’s Memory and Perception Laboratory.

“Both have dedicated themselves to the great spirit of education and scholarship that extends far beyond the walls of the academy,” McRobbie said. “Both have dedicated themselves to the great spirit of education and scholarship that extends far beyond the walls of the academy, and both have received many honors and awards for their work. I am very pleased to be able to add to those honors.”

The President's Medal for Excellence is the highest honor an IU president can bestow. First presented in 1985, it is awarded to those who have distinguished themselves in academia or public service.

Kuh joined the Indiana University faculty in 1976 and created and taught many courses in the Higher Education and Student Affairs Program in the School of Education. He directed 55 doctoral dissertations and served as a mentor to many more graduate students. His former students are now among the leading higher education and student affairs professionals and researchers in the nation.

“Professor Kuh is widely known as one of the world’s leading scholars of high-impact educational practices and student engagement,” McRobbie said. “For nearly 40 years, he has played a major role in helping to shape research and scholarship in the field of higher education and student affairs. He has rightly been called a towering figure who launched the field of assessment in institutional quality.”

Kuh is the author of highly influential texts used in higher education and student affairs programs around the world. As founding director of the National Survey of Student Engagement, he established a system for measuring students’ participation in activities that encourage academic and personal development, providing students, parents and others with important information about college quality. He also directed and continues to advise the Strategic National Arts Alumni Project, the first in-depth survey to investigate the educational experiences and career paths of arts graduates.

Kuh also founded IU’s Center for Postsecondary Research, which conducts research spanning a wide variety of areas, and his leadership helped make the center one of the major research operations in higher education. His contributions have been recognized by sev-
Kuh and Shiffrin continued

Shiffrin joined the IU faculty after graduating from Stanford University, where he and Richard Atkinson developed the Atkinson-Shiffrin model, giving a mathematical basis for a theory of memory for the first time. Their article is one of the most highly cited in the history of the behavioral sciences.

"Professor Shiffrin has made numerous contributions to the modeling of human cognition in areas ranging from perception to attention to learning," McRobbie said. "He is also known for his longstanding efforts to develop explicit models of human memory, especially the Atkinson-Shiffrin model, which has been called one of the most significant advances in the study of memory since William James."

Shiffrin’s subsequent discoveries have also been groundbreaking. In 1977, he and Walter Schneider proposed a theory of attention that divided automatic from control processes and showed how processes could become automatic through mapping. He helped create the Search of Associative Memory model in the 1980s and the Retrieving Effectively From Memory model in the 1990s.

At IU, he has served as advisor for many students and postdoctoral researchers, some of whom serve on the faculties of leading universities or as scientists for NASA, IBM, Microsoft and the U.S. Army Research Institute.

He co-chaired the Alliance of Distinguished and Titled Professors, served on the committee to form the School of Informatics, helped establish the Department of Statistics and was instrumental in establishing IU’s Cognitive Science Program.

He has also received many major awards in the field of psychology, including the Warren Medal of the Society for Experimental Psychology, the William James Fellow Award and the David E. Rumelhart Prize for Formal Modeling of Human Cognition -- known as the "Nobel Prize of Cognitive Science."

-per IU news release

Indiana University’s President’s Medal for Excellence

"The President’s Medal for Excellence is a reproduction in silver of the symbolic jewel of office worn by IU’s president at ceremonial occasions."
Indiana University Bloomington Provost and Executive Vice President Lauren Robel has presented the Provost’s Medal to Ruth M. Stone, a distinguished scholar of ethnomusicology on the IU Bloomington campus.

Robel presented the medal at a celebration marking the retirement of Stone from her position as an associate vice provost for arts and humanities in the IU Bloomington Office of the Vice Provost for Research, a position she has held for the past seven years. Stone will continue in her role as the Laura Boulton Professor of Folklore and Ethnomusicology in the IU Bloomington College of Arts and Sciences. Over the next several months, she plans to continue her research in Africa.

Stone, who earned her Ph.D. from IU in 1979, is co-founder of the EVIA Digital Archive, an ethnographic archive that began as a joint venture between Stone and Lester Monts at the University of Michigan. Funded since 2001 by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the EVIA archive’s diverse collections represent music traditions and performances from all over the world.

In 2007, when she became associate vice provost, Stone took on leadership of the Institute for Digital Arts and Humanities at IU Bloomington. The institute, which exists to empower arts and humanities faculty through access to IU’s powerful IT resources, has sponsored five groups of faculty fellows who have created projects such as documentaries, motion-capture dance performance and iPad apps. During her time as associate vice provost, Stone also led the IU Bloomington Media Preservation Initiative, supported by the Office of the Vice Provost and Office of the Provost at IU Bloomington. That initiative began with a campus-wide survey revealing critical media preservation needs for hundreds of thousands of items.

Stone guided a large task force and dozens of campus partners toward the creation of a plan to accomplish the necessary digital preservation. As a result of the work accomplished under Stone’s leadership, in fall 2013, IU President Michael McRobbie announced the establishment of a university-wide IU Media Digitization and Preservation Initiative with $15 million in funding and the development of an official IU Digitization Master Plan.

"Ruth Stone is an inspiration to her students and colleagues at IU Bloomington," Robel said. "From her pathbreaking scholarship in ethnomusicology to her leadership of the efforts to digitize and preserve the cultural treasures of this campus, Ruth’s work has touched virtually every corner of this campus. As she steps down from her associate vice provost role to delve back into her research and teaching passions here at IU, we are delighted to recognize Ruth’s role as both an accomplished scholar and administrator who brings so much to the university community."

As part of the Office of the Vice Provost for Research, Stone played key roles in securing funding to support faculty on the IU Bloomington campus. In 2013, for example, Stone was instrumental in securing a $750,000 award from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to strengthen international and global research and teaching at IU Bloomington. In its first two years, the Mellon Innovating International Research, Teaching and Collaboration grants program has awarded more than $400,000 to faculty projects covering areas such as Bangladesh, China, El Salvador, Haiti, Korea, Tibet and Zambia.


- per IU news release
Kelley School of Business professor receives highest honor from Academy of Management

Herman Aguinis, the John F. Mee Chair of Management and the founding director of the Institute for Global Organizational Effectiveness at Indiana University's Kelley School of Business, has received the Academy of Management's highest honor.

Aguinis was inducted into the Fellows Group at the annual meeting of the Academy of Management in Philadelphia earlier this month. The Academy of Management is the leading professional association for scholars dedicated to creating and disseminating knowledge about management and organizations. Fewer than 1 percent of Academy of Management members are accorded fellow status.

"Being inducted as a fellow of the Academy of Management is particularly meaningful to me because John F. Mee was inducted in 1953. It is a great personal satisfaction to continue Professor Mee's legacy and be inducted as a fellow, much like he was, 60 years ago," Aguinis said.

In 2012, Aguinis -- who also is a professor of organizational behavior and human resource management -- was honored by the Academy of Management with its Research Methods Division Distinguished Career Award. The year before, he received the Academy of Management Entrepreneurship Division IDEA Thought Leader Award.

He also is president of the Iberoamerican Academy of Management, an affiliate of the Academy of Management, which fosters the advancement of knowledge in management theory and practice with a particular regional emphasis on Iberoamerica, which is defined broadly to include all of Latin America, Latino populations in North America, and Spain and Portugal.

Aguinis is an expert in the fields of organizational behavior, human resource management, and research methods and analysis. His research is interdisciplinary and addresses human capital acquisition, development and deployment.

- per IU news release

2014 Recipient of the Henry R. Besch, Jr. Award

Linda B. Smith, chancellor's professor and distinguished professor in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences in the College of Arts and Sciences, was selected as this year's recipient of the Henry R. Besch, Jr. Award.

This award is conferred upon an individual who has exhibited unusual distinction in promoting and encouraging the growth of excellence at Indiana University, by facilitating the achievement of scholarly excellence in others, by creating mechanisms at Indiana University that enable others to pursue scholarly excellence, and/or by moving forward an organization unit at Indiana University to achieve an outstanding reputation.

The award was presented to Linda during the Annual Meeting of the Alliance, September 16, at the dinner event on the IUPUI campus.
Member Profile I: Professor Mervin C. Yoder

1. What are your research interests? Your mission?

My laboratory is interested in understanding the molecular and cellular regulation of mesoderm specification to the blood and endothelial lineages during embryogenesis. While it has become evident the all blood cells are ultimately derived from hemogenic endothelial cells during development, there is controversial support for any endothelial cells emerging as progeny of blood cells. We are particularly interested in how the blood and endothelial lineages interact to repair and regenerate blood vessels in human subjects with cardiovascular disease. My mission is to develop translational strategies to use blood cells and endothelial precursor cells as a cell therapy in patients with vascular dysfunction.

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

“We strive to keep an open mind and develop novel hypotheses to questions in our field.”

I enjoy many collaborations within the Department of Pediatrics and the Wells Center for Pediatric Research division which I serve as Chief. We have developed and collaborated with investigators who have developed pediatric models of several human diseases for which cell therapy to repair and regenerate vasculature may be considered; retinopathy of prematurity and chronic lung disease. I have been investing significant effort to promote entrepreneurial opportunities among the faculty of the School of Medicine through my role as Associate Dean for Entrepreneurial Research and as the Associate Director for Entrepreneurship for the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute.

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

Since our work is translational, we strive to be accountable in our research and expect that our approaches and findings can be reproduced by others throughout the world. We are highly collaborative and host visiting students and faculty who wish to learn our techniques. We strive to keep an open mind and develop novel hypotheses to questions in our field; even if at times those hypothesis are not popular in the field.

4. Mention any special honors.

I have received the Edwin L. Gresham Recognition Award, an Indiana University Teaching Excellence Award, the Malone College Alumnus of the Year Award, the Indiana State University Distinguished Alumni Award, and was elected to the Association of American Physicians.
5. What are your interests outside of research?

Supporting educational opportunities for elementary, middle, and high school students.

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

Though traditional federal avenues for research funding have been unstable and diminishing in “real” dollars, opportunities for completely new approaches to patient care abound and I hope to work with other academic institutions and industry to find mutually beneficial mechanisms for bringing these innovations to human health and disease prevention.
Member Profile II: Professor Olaf Sporns

1. What are your research interests? Your mission?

My home discipline is neuroscience, and over the past decade or so my research has focused on mapping and analyzing brain networks, especially those of the human cerebral cortex. The human brain is sometimes called the most complex object in the known universe – Here are some numbers to illustrate that point: The human brain's roughly 80 billion nerve cells make an estimated 100 trillion connections with each other, and each brain's wiring spans many thousand miles. Nerve cells and their connections form an incredibly densely tangled web (a network). The neural activity unfolding within this network is the biological substrate of all behavior and cognition – every mental state, thought, perception, memory, or emotion you've ever experienced is associated with precise patterns of activity that take shape within the networks of your brain. Only fairly recently has it become possible to begin tracing the brain's connections and making comprehensive maps of how brain networks are organized. My lab is working on building such network maps, understanding how neural activity dynamically unfolds within these networks, how connections are modified with use and experience, and how neural activity changes as brain networks become disturbed as a result of brain disorder or injury.

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

I joined IU's Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences (then called Psychology) in 2000. The department has extraordinary strengths in many areas of psychology and neuroscience, and it is therefore not surprising that it is consistently highly ranked in many national surveys. It is a real privilege (and sometimes a bit daunting) to be among so many stellar scientists whose contributions have shaped and continue to shape the discipline. Over the years, many strong connections and collaborations have developed, including in the area of neuroimaging, network analysis, developmental psychology and clinical applications. Teaching undergraduates as well as graduate students has continually broadened my own horizons, and has allowed me to become familiar with the scientific work that is going on across many areas of the department. Last year's 125th anniversary brought many of our alumni and friends back to campus – it was a memorable experience and an affirmation of the simple fact that my department is among the very best in the world!

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

“Nerve cells and their connections form an incredibly densely tangled web (a network)”
The pursuit of excellence is a strong motivation for any scientist and scholar. As one's career progresses, it is becoming more and more important to create opportunities so that younger scientists, students and postdocs can pursue their own dreams of excellence in science. As I see it, a good part of realizing that dream involves reaching beyond the boundaries of one's own area of research by becoming familiar with the way others approach common scientific challenges. Recognizing the value of the perspectives taken across different fields is an integral part of how I try to communicate and teach scientific excellence to others. Over my career I have been blessed by being around senior mentors and colleagues whose own pursuit of excellence in their fields was a constant inspiration to me. I have also learned that excellence can be an elusive goal, as our efforts to make sense of the world around us face many challenges and limitations. In my field of neuroscience, it seems that despite centuries of sustained progress a full understanding of the workings of the brain and mind will evade us for some time to come. So while striving for extending the boundaries of knowledge it is also important to be mindful of how little we know.

4. Mention any special honors.

While I greatly appreciate the professional honors and awards I’ve received over the years, I am particularly pleased when something I managed to do in teaching or mentoring makes a positive difference for students. For example, last year I taught an undergraduate seminar entitled “The Connected Brain” which I developed in the context of the College’s Themester on “Connectedness”. The course was an experiment for me, since it was the first time that I brought my own research area into the undergraduate classroom. It ended up being a terrific experience. At the end, the students made a nice card for me which they passed around and signed. I framed it and put it on my shelf as a reminder of what (for me at least) was my best class ever. Several of the students have since gone on to graduate school or medical school – I was very pleased that they seemed to have gotten something out of their class experience.

5. What are your interests outside of research?

When I am not glued to my keyboard in my office, or traveling to talks and meetings (22 so far this year), I enjoy digging around the garden – I am particularly fond of my collection of irises, some of them “transplants” from places around the world.
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 comments and letters to the Alliance email, alliance@indiana.edu.

Save the Date

Fall Dinner to be held:
Monday, September 21, 2015 in Bloomington