

Indiana Organists United

Fall 2016 Newsletter



JSoM Organ Department, Fall 2016

A message from the IOU President

An update from IOU President Edie Johnson

Why IOU?

In September the IOU board met, some in person and others via conference call. This was a very informative meeting that gave us more insight into both the Jacobs School of Music as a whole and the active and growing organ department.

The Jacobs school is growing and changing constantly! For example, within the next decade, there will be a new building for the music school that will include space for organ practice rooms and studios. Many of us have fond memories of the lovely Music Annex and inspiring recitals in 406 and 407 and those may soon be no more!

The Jacobs School of Music organ department is vibrant and active. Many of the current students are participating in and winning high profile competitions. Students are traveling and playing recitals in exciting places. *Pipedreams Live* recorded concerts on both Fisk organs last February. There are also wonderful summer opportunities at the University for students of all ages.

One very important question came up during the course of the IOU Board meeting. What is the purpose of IOU? I came up with a few ideas and you may have others as well.

To bring organ alumni together

Part of how we are realizing this goal is to provide a bi-annual newsletter. News of your Board Members is included in this newsletter and we would love to receive your news for our spring edition. We also hosted a

reception at the American Guild of Organists' Convention in Houston. It was great to see many of you there. The reception was a wonderful way to connect with other alumni from a variety of years. Maybe you see info from a fellow alum that you have not spoken to in many years. Maybe you connect with someone that you can ask questions of or share ideas with. Perhaps you are looking to relocate to a new job or another area and you can make a connection with another organ alum.

To be “cheerleaders” for the IU Organ Department

Board Vice President, Wayne Peterson, came up with the idea of the “cheerleader!” We live in a time now in which organ is typically not seen as the highest priority in many music schools. Many organ teaching positions at universities are not filled when faculty retire. Organ study at Indiana University is thriving and growing with great support from the university as a whole. We can support the growth of IU's organ department by encouraging talented and serious young organists to consider the school. We might also invite IU students to play in a concert series at our church. In addition, this July IU will host two organ academies, one for pre-college and one for collegiate students. Perhaps you know of a young organ student in your area who would benefit from these opportunities.

To stay connected with Indiana University

The entire University is growing and changing in wonderful ways. Our bi-annual conference is a way for alumni to stay connected with the university as a whole. Intense planning is underway for the IOU Reunion conference which will take place September 17–20, 2017. Don Saliers, AGO Chaplain, will be our Keynote Speaker. This event will prove to be challenging, practical and fun! We hope to see you there!

—Eddie Johnson, IOU President

A message from Room 222

An update from JSOM Organ Department Chair Janette Fishell

Another year is underway and despite the many demands of this new academic year, every member of your IOU Board is making communication a priority. To that end, we invite you to read about recent and upcoming Organ Department activity, to learn more about your IOU Board members and to mark some exciting new learning opportunities on your calendars.

The following report is taken from comments made at our recent IOU Board Meeting for the benefit of those who may have missed the Spring newsletter. The 2015–2016 academic year was very active, with the two September conferences, the IOU Fall Conference followed only one week later by the Reger Festival. Organizing and realizing these in the same month was a gargantuan task since we were one faculty member short, I had only just returned from sabbatical, and we had a new Curator who was learning the ropes. Special thanks go to David Kazimir who



Organ Faculty, Fall, 2016

returned to help new Curator **Patrick Fischer** avoid drowning during this period! Also a special note of thanks to our adjunct, visiting and emerita faculty, **Robert Nicholls, Douglas Reed and Marilyn Keiser**, who all helped make last year work so splendidly.

Enrollment during last year was lower than we have experienced in the past 5 years due to a high graduation rate and the completion of coursework by our doctoral students. However, the students we had here last year were a credit to the department and JSOM. They pulled together very polished performances at the fall events and performed with maturity and poise for our big winter event, *Pipedreams Live*, which took place in two live public recitals in February, curated by **Michael Barone** and presented in partnership with WFIU.

In addition to the usual rhythm of student recitals, Alumni Hall monthly noontime “Concerts at the Crossroads” have continued to build an interesting and diverse audience for organ music, and the AGO/Dept. produced another beautiful *Choralfest* under the mentorship of both Marilyn Keiser and Robert Nicholls. Patrick facilitated regular visits by **John Gouwens** who performs at the Metz Carillon during trips to conduct maintenance on both university carillons.

An interesting new initiative partnering student composers with organists resulted in “Hammer and Nail,” which involved many of our organ students premiering new compositions for the organ. **Chris Young** was the faculty facilitator for that event.

Several of our students performed well in recitals off campus and in competition. Learn more about this under Student News elsewhere in this newsletter.

Looking ahead to 2016–2017

One of the most heartening signs of the health of our department is our recruitment success this year. Despite the fact that we are still engaged in a faculty search this year, we welcomed a large incoming class, including four freshmen organ majors, something we have not experienced for several years, bringing the number of in-residence majors to 27.

We were able to keep **Robert Nicholls** on board this year to once again teach improvisation and Sacred Music Practicum; this semester he is also teaching graduate keyboard skills review. New to the faculty is adjunct instructor **Dr. Michael Boney**, who is full-time Canon Musician at Christ Church Cathedral, Indianapolis. Michael is teaching the graduate course Philosophy and Practice of Sacred Music this semester.

And we must recognize the outstanding contributions of **Patrick Fischer** who not only keeps our instruments working and in tune but organizes our space requirements and liaises with all calendar issues, among many other invaluable services to the cause. We said goodbye last spring to **Matt Gerhardt** who had done yeoman’s duty as the department GA; Matt is now Interim Assistant Organist/Choir Director at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Indy.

Looking ahead at this year’s events, we are delighted that a long-desired formal partnership with the Indianapolis AGO has been hammered out and we will now co-sponsor one major artist in recital and master class on an annual basis, alternating locations. This year **Stefan Engels**, SMU, will play a recital here on March 31 and deliver a master class April 1.

Summer Courses, 2017—Make Bloomington a Summer Destination!

After taking one year off, the Sacred Music Intensive (SMI) Summer Course will return June 5–9, 2017, for its third year. Designed as a refresher course for church musicians, it is a grass roots effort to connect with the greater profession in which the talents and resources of our academy are available to church musicians of all ages and stages. *Please consider attending this and telling your colleagues about it.*

Two other NEW and innovative summer courses are being developed for implementation later in the summer of 2017:

July 17–21: Jacobs Pre-College Organ Academy, open to organists and keyboardists ages 13–17 and

July 24–28: Jacobs Collegiate Organ Academy, open to collegiate students, recent graduates, or college-bound students ages 18 and older.

Building on the recent success of our POE and POE-A events, both academies are designed for the inquisitive and motivated organ student who seeks a week of engagement with artist faculty, the stimulation of encountering new ideas, opportunities to perform on outstanding instruments, and the camaraderie of other organists. Our modest tuition includes room and board, daily lessons, practice, exposure to the university's vast instrumental and library holdings (including harpsichords and carillons), numerous performances, and a variety of courses designed to sharpen musical insight and technical skills.

In the meantime, I issue you an invitation to visit anytime you find yourself in the vicinity. The light is always on (in a practice room!) and we would all love to welcome you back home to the place, school, and department we all love.

—Janette Fishell, Professor of Music; Chair, Organ Department

Nominations due for the Oswald Ragatz Alumni Award

Nominations for the next Oswald Ragatz Alumni Award are due on November 15th, 2016. This award, to be presented at the next IOU conference in September, 2017, recognizes former students and faculty who have distinguished themselves in their field or public service as well ongoing support for the organ department. For a full list of requirements and the nomination form, please see the bottom of this newsletter and send candidate nominations to Vicki Schaeffer at vschaeffer@ou.edu.

Organ Department Student News

In May 2016, students studying **improvisation** with Robert Nicholls performed an organ improvisation recital at First Presbyterian Church in Evansville, IN. Participants were Nicole Simental, Katie Burk, Matthew Gerhardt, Lucas Fletcher, Dalong Ding, and Nara Lee.

In March 2016, **Lucas Fletcher** gave an organ recital at Third Baptist Church in St. Louis, MO. Lucas is a DM student and expects to graduate in 2020.

Katie Burk also took part in the improvisation recital at First Presbyterian Church, Evansville, IN, as well as the FPC's First Fridays Recital Series in October 2017. She served as the dean of the AGO Young Organists Initiative, Great Lakes Region, from September 2015–July 2016, and is currently a committee



Organ students at First Presbyterian, Evansville

member for the Great Lakes AGOYO. This summer she was at the Royal School of Church Music in America's King's College Summer Training Course, Wilkes-Barre, PA as housemaster, and attended the AGO National Convention in Houston. Katie is a MM student and is expected to graduate May 2017.

Yumiko Tatsuta was invited to Piedmont College in Demorest, GA, as a recitalist for their "SuperNova Organ Concert" on September 18, 2016. (The president of Piedmont College, Dr. James Mellichamp, also holds a DMA in Organ from IU!) Yumiko is a Performer's Diploma student in Dr. Fishell's studio, and is expected to graduate May 2018. Born in Tokyo, she earned her BM and MM degrees in Organ Performance from Tokyo University of the Arts and also studied at the Hochschule für Musik in Stuttgart, Germany



James Mellichamp and Yumiko Tatsuta

Get to know your IOU Board Members

The IOU Board Members are here to serve you! They come from a broad range of class years, professions, and locations, and would welcome your suggestions for strengthening the network and programming of the IOU. Feel free to contact them at the addresses below:

President: Edie Johnson (MM '98, DM '03) ejohnson@churchstreetumc.org

Vice-President: Wayne Peterson (MM '87) music@trinityfw.org

Secretary: A. Lee Barlow (MM '88) albmus@aol.com

Past President: Patrick Pope (MM '04, DM '15)

Honorary Founding President: David K. Lamb (BM/BME '83, MS '85, SME '94, DM '00)
lambd61@sbcglobal.net

Honorary Life Member-at-large: Tom Wood (BM '66, MM '68) 317tomwood@comcast.net

Board of Directors:

2013–16

Kevin Neel (BM '12) kevin.w.neel@gmail.com

David Sims (MM '08) davidsims@gmail.com

Tom Wood (BM '66, MM '68) 317tomwood@comcast.net

2014–17

Vince Carr (BA '04, BM '04) vincarr@gmail.com

Tom Nichols (BME '92) thomasnichols@prodigy.net

John G. Simpson (MM '69, DM '93) simpsonj@indiana.edu

2015–18

Kevin Neel (BM '12) kevin.w.neel@gmail.com (*re-appointed to fill vacancy*)

Carol Nave (DM '13) carolnave@yahoo.com

Vicki J. Schaeffer (DM '92) vschaeffer@ou.edu

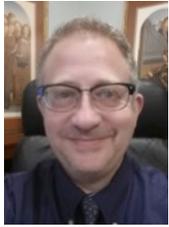
Upcoming members, 2017–19

Irene Ator (BME '66) irenator@gmail.com

Yun Kim (MM '96, DM '05) yunkimhughes@hotmail.com

Paul Monachino (MM '87) pmonachino@toledodiocese.org

Board Member and Faculty news:



Lee Barlow (MM '88) is Director of Sacred Music & Organist at St. Alphonsus Liguori Catholic Church in Zionsville, IN, where he directs an Adult/Teen choir, the Treble choir for boys and girls, the Contemporary ensemble, the Cantors, and plays for all weekend Masses. He has a small piano studio, and is also a free-lance accompanist for ISSMA and sundry events.

Patrick Fischer is in his second year as Curator of Organs and Carillons at IU. He oversees the maintenance and tuning of some 14 pipe organs at the JSOM, schedules and tunes continuo organs for the Historic Performance Institute, and manages scheduling and facilities-related Organ Department tasks. Before coming to IU, Patrick was a pipe organ builder with Richards, Fowkes, & Co. of Chattanooga, TN, C. B. Fisk, Inc. of Gloucester, MA, and Hendrickson Organ Company of St. Peter, MN. He is the organist at St. John's Episcopal Church in Bedford, IN.



Janette Fishell (BM '81, MM '82) was a juror in the 5th E.F. Walcker organ competition in Schramberg, Germany, a tutor and recitalist at the Oundle International Summer School for Organists, and a recitalist for at the Stadtkirche, Stuttgart, honoring the anniversaries of Max Reger and Johann Jacob Froberger. This year she will perform all twelve of César Franck's major organ works in two recitals on the series: *Franckaphilia* (Oct. 3 and Jan 10) in the Jacobs School of Music's Auer Hall. On a personal note, she was married July 23 in Bristol, England to Richard Larnach, who brings a beautiful 15-year-old daughter into her life.



Edie Johnson (MM '98, DM '03) is Music Associate and Organist at Church Street United Methodist Church in Knoxville, TN. She is also Lecturer in Organ and Church Music at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. This past spring Edie presented an organ recital for music lovers of all ages entitled, *Beastly Music for the King of Instruments* as part of Church Street UMC's Master Arts Series. Over the summer, she led an organ day for the piano camp of East Tennessee State University and she was a guest artist for the Greensboro, NC, AGO's Summer Recital series. Edie and her husband, Jason Overall (Organist and Choirmaster at St. John's Episcopal Cathedral), have two children, James, 9, and Elizabeth, 2, and three kitties, Desi, Thisbe and Romeo. Edie enjoys reading and playing with her children, baking, and running half marathons.



Yun Kim (MM '96, DM '05) has been serving as organist and choirmaster at Christ Episcopal Church in Dayton, Ohio since 2000, and is on the faculty at Sinclair Community College. She is a prize winner at both regional and national competitions in organ performance sponsored by the American Guild of Organists, and has served as an adjudicator at regional and national organ competitions. She is currently the Competition Coordinator for the Great Lakes AGO Region. She is past Dean of the Dayton (Ohio) Chapter of the AGO, has served on the faculty of three Pipe Organ Encounter programs, and has chaired the Dayton Church Music Workshop. Yun is honored to be a 2015 recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University. Yun's most recent CD, *Of Another Time*, is available on the MSR Classics label. Please visit her website at yunkyongkim.com for more information.



David K. Lamb (BM/BME '83, MS in ED '85, SME '94, DMus '00) is Director of Music at Trinity UMC in New Albany, IN, where he conducts the Chancel Choir and Celebration Ringers. He continues as adjunct instructor of Music at IUPUI in Columbus, and was recently reelected for a second term as national Councillor for Membership for the American Guild of Organists. Beginning a new term as the dean of the Southern Indiana AGO chapter, he has placed the AGO emblem in bronze on his burial crypt. David is also beginning a third term as president of the Jennie Gebhart Hedden Music Club of New Albany, founded in 1929, when the Community Mens' Chorus merged with the Treble Clef Club. His first round as president was during the 1986–1988 season, exactly 30 year before this current “third spin” as president, where in November he will conduct a presentation of Handel's *Messiah* with full orchestra.



Paul Monachino (MM '87) writes: “I am pleased by the invitation to serve on the IOU Board and look forward to assisting with its work to keep alumni connected to the JSoM. Upon completing my Master's degree at IU in 1987 I was Director of Music and Organist at St. Peter Parish in Mansfield, Ohio for 9 years. While there I developed several choirs and a concert series – several of my IU student friends performed on that series. The adult choir presented annual Christmas concerts, twice presenting performances of Handel's *Messiah*. In Mansfield my wife, Laura, and I welcomed our two sons into the world, Matthew and Michael. In 1996 I accepted a position as Director of Music and Organist at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Raleigh, NC. Many new and exciting opportunities were part of my time there, including several large-scale Diocesan celebrations and festivals. I also became a member of the Conference of Roman Catholic Cathedral Musicians, a group of colleagues that have been an important source of resources and support. In 2001 we moved to Toledo, Ohio where I am currently the Director of Music/Organist of Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral and Diocesan Director of Liturgical Music. Over the past 15 years the cathedral liturgical life has increased dramatically. I organized a Diocesan Choir which sings for major Diocesan Masses and developed a Cathedral Choir that sings weekly for Sunday Mass. One highlight of my time here was taking the choirs on a trip to Spain in 2005 and 2007, including our Sister City of Toledo. I am hoping to repeat that trip in 2021 for the 90th anniversary of the Association of Two Toledos! Leisure time usually revolves around family and friends and often involves the preparation and/or consumption of food! We have 2 dogs that keep us healthy with daily walks. Spending time with our 4 year old grand-daughter has become an important pastime. We do enjoy travelling and hope to do more in the future. A few years ago I attended the IU Sacred Music Intensive week. It was the first time I had been back to Bloomington for many years. I was so impressed with all of the new music facilities that were still a dream when I was a student. I am proud to know that the organ and sacred music department has grown to become an outstanding institution in this country and internationally.”



Kevin Neel (BM '12) is Organist and Chapel Choir Director at Emmanuel Church in Boston. He also serves as Executive Director for Coro Allegro and Organist for St. Clement Eucharistic Shrine, and is the Convener for the Young Organists Divisions of the American Guild of Organists. He received his Masters of Sacred Music degree in Choral Conducting at Boston University studying under Ann Howard Jones and Scott Allen Jarrett. Recently, he accompanied BU's Symphonic Chorus in their Symphony Hall performance of Fauré's *Requiem* and the BU Singers in their performance of Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms* at Old South Church. He has sung recently with the Marsh Chapel Choir, Emmanuel Music, Cantata Singers, the Polyphony Project, and VOICES 21C.



Tom Nichols (BME '92) is the Director of Music Ministries at St. Luke Catholic Church on the north side of Indianapolis, a post he began in July 2013. There he directs two adult choirs, two children's choirs, and is organist/pianist for at least five liturgies each week. He also serves as the special events organist for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, playing for special liturgies at SS. Peter & Paul Cathedral sung by the archdiocesan choir. He sings tenor with *Vox Sacra*, the auditioned schola cantorum of the Archdiocese. He is also a tenor in the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir and looks forward to performing with them in Carnegie Hall in mid-October 2016. He is finishing a fourth term as president of the Central Indiana Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society,

and is also a member of the AGO and the National Association of Pastoral Musicians. He is a licensed locomotive engineer and train conductor, certified on a 36-mile short line in Central Indiana.



Wayne Peterson (MM '87) is Music Director of Trinity Episcopal Church, Fort Wayne, a position he has held since graduating from IU. He performs regularly with the Eleganza Baroque Ensemble and is currently writing a paper to be delivered to Quest Club in January entitled, "The Importance of Humanities in a STEM-Centered Society." Wayne hopes that all IU organ alumni can return to Bloomington for the 2017 conference to see the improved facilities, hear remarkable new organs, meet the talented students, and rekindle friendships.



Vicki Schaeffer (DM '92) is Organist and Congregational Musician at Mayflower Congregational United Church of Christ in Oklahoma City, OK. She is also Director of College Counseling at Heritage Hall, a private college prep school in OKC. She was recently re-elected as Southwest Regional Councillor for the AGO.

John G. Simpson (MM '69, DM '93) has been retired for 9–10 years from the University and also from church work but substitutes as needed. In doing this he has learned to enjoy liturgies that were not part of his pre-retirement church commitment. He sings in two groups in Columbus and keeps in touch with his former IU office colleagues, believing strongly in the work of the Health Professions and Prelaw Center there. He tries to take one big trip almost every year and has visited more countries across the globe—including Iceland and the jungles of Costa Rica—than he would have dreamed possible when he was young(er). And yet, there is so much more to see. He loves his garden although it regularly, nay, consistently humbles and humiliates him and he enjoys his evening visits from the raccoons who come to the door to beg for/demand dinner.



David Sims (MM '08) is Cantor at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, where he directs 2 adult choirs and plays organ for all services. He continues to write music, and is delighted that this past year Augsburg Fortress published *Wondrous Birth* (a collection of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany prelude settings and harmonizations), and will release two choral anthems, "O Christ, Surround Me" and "Come Away to the Skies", and a book of 25 hymn introductions and harmonizations later this fall.



Thomas Wood (BM '66, MM '68), is JSoM Organ Curator Emeritus, as well as co-founder of Goulding & Wood, Inc. He serves as Treasurer of the IU Chapter of AGO, and is a member of the American Institute of Organbuilders where he delivered a lecture at this year's convention titled "The History and Development of the Pneumatic Windchest" which will be published in *The Journal of American Organbuilding*.

Send us your updates!

The Spring 2017 edition of this newsletter will include updates from the entire alumni body. Send us your name, degrees, class years, and a brief update on any news you would like to share with the IOU. Email updates to:

indianaorganistsunited@gmail.com

Donate to IU!

You can now donate to the Organ Department directly through the web. Head to the organ department website and click the “GIVE NOW” to help support organ students at IU.

Organ Department Website

For the latest information on upcoming events, organ specifications, and IU news, head to the organ department’s website:

music.indiana.edu/departments/academic/organ/index.shtml

Upcoming Events

- September 17–20, 2017—**IOU Reunion Conference**, Indiana University, Bloomington
Don Saliers, Keynote Speaker

Oswald Ragatz Alumni Award Nomination Form

Nominations for the next Oswald Ragatz Alumni Award are due on November 15th, 2016. This award, to be presented at the next IOU conference in September, 2017, recognizes former students and faculty who have distinguished themselves in their field or public service as well ongoing support for the organ department.

Nomination form, Indiana Organist United Distinguished Alumni Award

A statement of nomination, including a resume or biographical data must accompany this form. Additional letters of support are welcome.

Nominee: _____

Year(s) and degree(s): _____

Business title: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Nominated by: _____

Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime phone: _____

Return form to: Vicki Schaeffer at vschaeffer@ou.edu. Please submit this form by November 15, 2016.

THE INDIANA ORGANIST UNITED ALUMNI AWARD ELIGABILITY RULES

Article I – Eligibility

- Any individual who has earned a degree in organ or was an organ student for at least two years.
- Any individual who has served as a resource person for the Organ Department.

Article II – Criteria

- Any nominee who has distinguished him/herself in any field or public service.
- Any nominee who has shown ongoing support for Organ Department or the Indiana Organist United Board.

Article III – Nomination

- The nomination shall be in letter form and must contain:

1. Name and address of nominee
2. Nature of nominee's field or public service
3. Nature of ongoing support for the Organ Department or Indiana Organist United Alumni Board.
4. Name and address of nominator

B. The nomination should be submitted by November 16 to be considered for the award given in the ensuing calendar year and emailed to: Vicki Schaeffer at vschaeffer@ou.edu

C. Nominations remain in effect for three consecutive years. After that they may be resubmitted.

Article IV - Selection Committee

A. The president of the Indiana Organist United Alumni Board shall appoint a seven-member selection committee to serve from anniversary reunion to anniversary reunion (three years). One member shall be designated by the president to serve as chair.

B. The chair shall be a non-voting member of the committee who may vote only in the event of a tie.

C. The president of the IOU, the chair of Organ Department, and the current IU Alumni Association liaison shall serve as ex-officio members of the committee. Current and retired directors may be invited to serve as ex-officio.

D. Any member of the committee who is also a nominee for the award shall forfeit the committee position.

E. The standing committee, appointed at the first annual meeting, on September 23, 2005, shall serve as the initial selection committee. Thereafter, a committee shall be appointed as stated in Article IV, Section A.

Article V - Presentation

A. The award shall be presented at the annual meeting of the Indiana Organist United Alumni Board and shall consist of a plaque. The recipient's name shall also be inscribed on a permanent plaque in the School of Music.

B. More than one award may be presented if it is deemed appropriate by the selection committee to do so.

C. If no qualified nominee exists in a given year, no award shall be given.

[date and recipient revised as of 10/2016]