

Wanted: Stellar Program Topics

To bolster an already fulfilling variety of programs to meet interests of Academy members, the program committee is soliciting ideas from members about programs they would like to attend. One proposed is that we add a series of “last lectures” where members with special interests can present a topic as if it would be the last time they could speak to an audience.

A committee will be called to devise the criteria and suggest persons to invite to give their “final” thoughts as if they were never to teach another topic to willing ears. Such a program has been in place at a number of universities. President **Jim East** last experienced such an offering at San Francisco State where he was a faculty member.

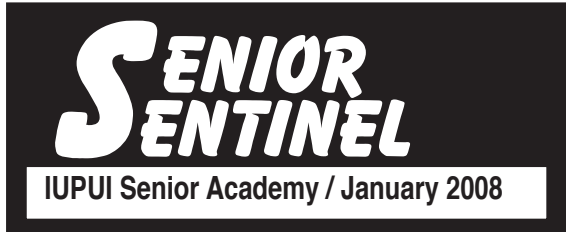
Not only well-known current and retired faculty would be considered, but also staff members who have important views and experiences. Other topics were outlined at the October Board meeting.

Another is that we have a program on hearing aids, and hearing problems with elderly. There is a great deal of hearing expertise on the IUPUI campus and **Margaret Applegate** has arranged a presenter, a schedule, and a likely format.

If you have an idea for any kind of program, contact any member of the Senior Academy Board.

Here are the topics for the spring semester.

All programs are 10 a.m. until Noon, unless noted otherwise. They are held in the Glendale Library Auditorium.



It's a Hit. If You Want Info, Dial In

The newest service of the Academy, the Shared Information Program, apparently works well and is wildly successful. It allows members to ask for specific information about topics they are interested in. The address is sa-share-info-1@iupui.edu

You enter your question or desire for information which is then sent through a special listserve. Recipients can then answer only to you.

Jim East had wanted to find user

experiences or knowledge about the choices of a smaller home or other living arrangements in the Indy area as he was investigating downsizing. He received about 30 responses, even from out-of-state, which he described as very positive and helpful.

Members are encouraged to make use of this service and capitalize on the experiences of other Academy members.

January 29 - Teaching and Lecturing in Retirement - Dick Fredland, who will tell how to arrange ways to teach abroad, and tales from his teaching.

February 19 - Are You Listening? - Jim East, a charter member of the International Listening Association taught a credit course in listening at IUPUI for 20+ years. Highlights: human listening and a brief exercise to help understand how well you listen.

March 5 – Tour of the new
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Academy Members Keep Indy as Home

A new analysis of Senior Academy members reveals that more than 90.3% of us have chosen to remain in the Indianapolis area. The study is useful to determine how to communicate with members and the likelihood of their attending Academy-sponsored events.

Only 15 members, 5.4% have moved out of state, and only 12, or 4.3%, live out of the Indy metro area. Arizona is the new home for four out-of-staters, three are in Florida, and two in California.

Retirees can continue to have IUPUI internet service and 53% are at iupui.edu. A surprising 62 do not list an email address. Those who may not know it, can have an IUPUI internet service and automatically forward email messages to other sites.

Bookmark our Website: www.iupui.edu/~sacademy/index.htm



President's Perspective

Goals for Selves and for the Academy for 2008

Chances are that you have set personal goals for 2008. Many organizations set goals as they seek to improve their operations. I think the Senior Academy should set goals also in an effort to become a better, more responsive organization. In that connection, I have e-mailed members of the Board of Directors and our committee chairs asking them to bring at least one written goal for the Academy to share with the Board at its January 10 meeting. From that input, hopefully the Board will approve stated Academy goals for 2008. Here are three that I would like the Board to more fully develop.

First, we should continue efforts to better communicate more directly, more personally with members. The new Shared Information Program (SIP) where members can seek input from other members on topics of mutual interest is a step in the right direction. To access SIP, do the following: sa-share-info-l@iupui.edu Additionally, our website is now being updated at www.iupui.edu/~sacademy/index.htm Also, we are working with an IUPUI archivist to make history and pictures of the organization readily available on line. To access this information, go to: <http://archives.iupui.edu>

Second, we need to do a better job in serving our members who live outside the central Indiana area, especially those out of state. This involves about 10% of our members. For starters, why not invite such folks to submit information on happenings in their lives which could be included in a regular column in the organization's *Sentinel*? Better yet, let me appeal now for these individuals to suggest ways we could better serve them.

Third, develop a distinctively new addition to the IUPUI campus sponsored by the Senior Academy and called The Last Lecture Series, in which professors and staff are asked to think deeply about what matters to them and to give a hypothetical final talk to a general audience. The underlying question is: what wisdom would the speaker impart to the world if he/she knew it was his/her last chance? An exploratory committee is now being identified to pursue this idea. With all the talent on campus, this could develop into a signature event

In summary, my wish for you in 2008 is happiness, good health, and being actively in touch with the Senior Academy.

James R. East, President

More Programs for This Semester Continued, from Page 1

Central Library. Lunch at noon at the Athenaeum followed by a tour of the new library at 2 pm. Tours are offered only at 2 and 6 pm.

March 18 - From Pioneer to Contemporary Mormonism: "It's Difficult to Get Here from There" - Jan Shipp, emeritus professor of history and religious studies. She will show how perceptions of Mormonism have changed in the last 60 years with attention brought by the Olympics and Mitt Romney, and how the church has grown from a million to 13 million members.

April 15 - Hearing Concerns for the Elderly - Donna Siegel, Riley Audiology Clinic, Time TBA, at Riley Clinic, Details TBA

May 14-15 - Overnight at Spring Mill State Park. Mark and Mary Grove are making arrangements. The April event has not been finalized yet.

June 5, 4 p.m. - Senior Academy Annual Meeting in the new Student Center.

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Who Can Belong to the Academy?

An inquiry whether a surviving spouse of a member can belong to the Academy sparked a discussion on membership categories that are not specifically provided for in the bylaws. The Board voted to create an interim honorary membership for such individuals and to look to amend the bylaws to cover these individuals.

The Senior Academy has been invited again to be a part of the annual retirement program for all new university retirees. It will be March 28 in the Conference Center.

According to **Harriett Wilkins**, who chairs our membership committee, the plan is to have a couple

Retirees Will See Us Again

of staff member retirees and perhaps two faculty retirees assist to help explain life beyond IUPUI and the advantages of

membership in the Academy.

Last year, she thought that there would be minimal attendance at a program following lunch. However the room was full and many questions were asked.

A new Senior Academy brochure will be available, which includes not only brief explanations of our history, operations, and services, but also an invitation for prospective members to list their ideas for programs and for volunteer services.

Members Support Us with Their \$\$\$\$

Several members seem to be especially generous in supporting the Academy scholarship program which funds three \$2,000 scholarships annually. An endowment of \$40,000 each will be required to make each fund self-sustaining.

Treasurer **Don Schultheis** reported at the December Board meeting that one individual gave \$2,000 during the previous month for the fund with the lowest balance, that for returning students.

Academy Archived, Our History Preserved

The University Library now has much of the history of the Senior Academy archived on line, through the efforts of **Karen Zimmerman**, digital archivist for the library. A missing document is the first issue of the newsletter, now called the Senior Sentinel. Included in the archives are bylaws as well as newsletters. She invites members to send other documents they think should be included.

You can see the collection at <https://archives.iupui.edu/dspace/handle/2450/521>

In searching for all pertinent documents, the following "Farewell to the Senior Academy Board" by charter member **Virgil Hunt** was found as a feature, published in the one of the first issues of the Senior Academy Newsletter.

A requirement for admission is to live 65 years and not get fired.
A desire to remain active although you're quite tired.
Things ain't what they used to be, of that we're pretty sure,
And if we look back carefully, they probably never were.

With all of our experience and being in the know,
We wonder why the administration doesn't let us run the show.
We see what's been accomplished and yet what's still undone,
It would have been finished if we were only twenty-one.
We are very willing our many talents to share,
And we will be around as long as Medicare.

If I should be guilty of a corny witticism,
It really isn't meant as any kind of criticism
The Senior Academy is and will surely always be
A very conservative part of our beloved university.

If and when St. Peter beckons us, he surely should beware
That we will likely arrive in our trusty wheel chair.
I appreciate the privilege of having been a member,
And of sharing our friendship which I'll cherish and remember.

Eons Gives Future for Oldsters

With the computer being more valuable in our lives, a new website dedicated to folks over 50 has appeared. It is eons.com and has a variety of tools: longevity calculators that suggest ways to improve our health and life expectancy, mind-sharpening games, online discussion groups, and articles about romance, health, finances, and entertainment.

Eons.com is free and you can click and open a profile and register. There are other sites on browsers, such as adults over fifty, and other online resources.

Going on the Web? Re-check the Academy Site

Efforts are underway to revise the Senior Academy website, according to Communications Committee chair **Walt Linne**. A study is being made of what should be on the website, as well as utilizing the newest technologies and devices to ease reading.

Judy Silence, a former board member, is continuing as website editor and helping to re-form the site as a major means of communication for the Academy to the world. The website is listed in several places in this issue of the Sentinel and readers are asked to access it and comment on how it could serve them better.

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