

Indiana University College of Arts & Sciences Alumni Association

Encompass

Newsletter of the Comparative Literature Program

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In memoriam: Clifford Flanigan, 1941–1993

Innovation, enthusiasm marked professor's style

Clifford Flanigan died suddenly on Oct. 27, 1993. A far-flung network of colleagues, friends, and devoted students past and present are devastated by the loss. An associate professor in comparative literature, he probably left his strongest impact on certain areas of medieval studies, but his stimulating work reached far beyond either discipline. He was a genuine scholar/teacher, and those who came into contact with him invariably became his students.

Cliff Flanigan was born on Aug. 2, 1941, in the heart of Baltimore; he graduated at age 16 from City College there, a public but selective high school. As a boy, he loved to play "High Church" with a friend; so it seemed natural that, in 1967, he would earn a master of divinity degree (from Concordia Theological Seminary in St. Louis). But he became disillusioned with matters of theology and dogma and changed fields. He completed a doctorate in comparative literature at Washington University with a dissertation on a topic that reflected his early passion and was to remain central to his later work: medieval drama in its relation to church ritual. The book he was preparing on the subject remains unfinished, but in just the last few years he published in three distinguished collections of essays articles that suggest the core of his interests: "Liminality, Carnival, and Social Structure: The Case of Late Medieval Biblical Drama," in *Victor Turner and the Construction of Cultural Criticism*, edited by Kathleen Ashley (Indiana University); "Medieval Latin Music Drama," in *The Theatre of Medieval Europe*, edited by Eckehard Simon (Harvard University); and "The Biblical Apocalypse and the Medieval Liturgy," in *The Apocalypse in the Middle Ages*, edited by Bernard McGinn and Richard Emmerson (Cornell University). His first publication, "The Roman Rite and the Origins of the Liturgical Drama," won him the Elliott Prize of the Medieval Academy of America in 1976.

Cliff's love was liturgy, but he promoted the study of early monastic culture in all of its



Clifford Flanigan

variety and vigor. What made his work important and innovative was his insistence on approaching medieval studies in the light of recent critical theory and with a truly transdisciplinary perspective. While displaying rigorous scholarship in his writing and teaching, he was also deeply involved in restoring life to medieval texts in performance, notably in collaboration with Thomas Binkley. Perhaps the most spectacular of these productions was "The Greater Passion Play" from the *Carmina Burana*, presented not only in Bloomington, but also in New York. Others — there were nine altogether — were taken to the annual International Congress on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo or to festivals in Toronto.

Cliff came to Indiana University in 1972 with a large collection of records, a fascination with archetypal criticism and Northrop Frye, and an enthusiasm for teaching. His theoretical orientations changed, but not his engagement with theory. And he was always surrounded by students, even though some of us were faculty members here and at other universities. He was an enthusiastic and inspiring teacher, using his courses to work out

many of the ideas he later presented at conferences and in publications. He was for many years involved in teaching courses for the Honors Division at IU, and he taught for both the Biblical and Medieval Studies institutes. In 1987, Cliff was awarded the Frederick Lieberman Award for Distinguished Teaching.

At IU, students were Cliff's extended family. He formed the Medieval Reading Circle some years ago because he thought students were not getting enough theory. The circle in turn established an annual spring symposium at which students and faculty could present their research. In April 1994, a number of his former students, now academics elsewhere, returned to this campus to join Indiana students and faculty at the symposium in honoring Cliff and his work — a sign of the profound loyalties he had created.

What he himself felt to be the greatest opportunity in his career turned out to be its conclusion: the invitation to serve as Senior Fulbright Lecturer at the University of Copenhagen's Institute for Church History in the spring semester of 1993, which involved giving lectures in several countries. He returned with plans for collaborative projects with old and new Scandinavian colleagues and friends, and the messages received from there indicate that his brief stay provided an uncommon stimulus. But the sense of loss created by Cliff Flanigan's untimely death is perhaps best expressed in the words sent from abroad by a member of the Bloomington faculty: "He was one of the few scholars and colleagues I knew whose teaching and writing were genuinely innovative (I'm referring to the theoretical aspects of his work that I was capable of judging); and, above all, he was a genuinely decent man."

Clifford Flanigan is survived by his son, C. Patrick Flanigan, and his mother, Mrs. Anna Flanigan.

— *Claus Clüver (Comparative Literature Program) and Lawrence M. Clopper (Medieval Studies Institute)*

Departmental update: Students, faculty have productive year

Students who received prizes awarded by the Comparative Literature Program at the 1994 annual picnic are: Cary Henson and Philip Holden-Moses, the A.I. Award for Distinguished Teaching; Christine Bolus-Reichert, the Gilbert V. Tutungi Award and the Newton P. Stallknecht Memorial Essay Prize; Dorothea Rovner, the Undergraduate Award; and David Bandurski, the Anne Geduld Memorial Prize for Interdisciplinary Study of the Arts.

Graduate student Suzanne Abram presented "Satire in Fifth-Century Gaul: Sidonius Ep. 1.11" at the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, and "A Letter of Consolation? Abelard's *Historia Calamitatum*" at the seventh annual Reading Circle Symposium in Bloomington, both in April.

Professor Ernest Bernhardt-Kabisch will serve as resident director of Indiana University's Overseas Study Program in Hamburg, Germany, during 1994-95.

Graduate student Mark T. Best presented "Male and Supermale: Constructions of Masculinity in Superhero Comics of the 1950s" at the 1994 Popular Culture Association Conference, held in Chicago in April. He also presented "The Inner-Directed Batman: Comics and *The Lonely Crowd*" at the third annual Comic Arts Conference in Chicago in July.

Graduate student Peter Bixby was awarded a grant from the American Comparative Literature Association to study Czech this past summer.

Graduate student Christine Bolus-Reichert presented a paper titled "Anronioni, De Chirico, and the Metaphysical Landscape" at the 18th annual Colloquium on Literature and Film in Morgantown, W.Va., last fall.

Graduate student Terry Dibble presented "Looking at the Mountains: Bashō and Sinai" at the 1993 Modern Language Association convention in Toronto.

Professor Eugene Boyang presented a talk on "Translating from the Chinese" at the University of Vienna in April. His book on multiculturalism, *Coat of Many Colors: Reflections on Diversity from a Minority of One*, is scheduled for publication in December.

Graduate students Margaret Ervin and Kimberli Kearns, with former IU comparative literature professor Randy Rutsky (now teaching at Notre Dame), presented a multimedia performance panel on technology, gender, and mass culture titled "I Wanna Be a Machine" at the 1994 Popular Culture Association Conference. Kearns also presented "Darkening the Western Skies: Generic Transgression in *Duel in the Sun* and *Pursued*" at the 22nd annual Twentieth-Century Literature Conference, held in Louisville, Ky., in February, and "Fascinating Knowledge" at the International Association of Philosophy and Literature, held in Edmonton, Alberta, in May.

Professor Harry Geduld was recently honored by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which named *The Birth of the Talkies* one of the 100 best books about film.

Geduld's series of anthologies from G.K. Hall (co-edited with Ronald Gottesman) will soon feature volumes on John Huston, Orson Welles, and Stanley Kubrick; the last of these volumes was prepared by Geduld.

Graduate student Anthony R. Guneratne was awarded the first Eva Kagan-Kans Memorial Award for his paper "Assault with a Friendly Weapon: Privileged Access and the Operations of the Gaze in the American Anti-Rape Film Genre." His article "Tricks of the Trades: The Discourse of Class and the Role of Symbolic Capital in the 'Rise' of the American Feature Film, 1912-1913" was published in *Griffithiana* 1 (1994), and "A Certain Trepidation of the Picture": Bakhtin, the Lumière Paradigm, and the Dawn of Documentary" will appear in *Griffithiana* in 1995. Guneratne also presented "Islands and Empires: Colonialism and the Question of Documentary Authenticity" at the S/MLA at North Carolina State University in September.

Graduate student Aimee Hall was moderator for a panel on "Other America(n) Influences on American Literature" at the 22nd annual Twentieth-Century Literature Conference in February.

Professor Joan Hawkins presented a paper titled "The Commies Are Coming, The Commies Are Coming: Propaganda Films and the Crisis in American Masculinity" at the 1994 Popular Culture Association conference in April.

Graduate student Cary Henson presented "Nabokov's *Pale Fire* and the Ludic Search for Fictional Truth" at the 22nd annual Twentieth-Century Literature Conference in Feb-

ruary.

Graduate student Philip Holden-Moses presented a lecture titled "Brushing with Modernism: Paying Attention to Paint" at Ohio University last fall. He also presented "Boyz II Men: From *Stone Boy* to *Scent of a Woman* — Men's Issues and Co-Dependence in Commercial Film" at the Lit/Film Association annual meeting in December 1993, and "Not Waving But Drowning by Numbers: Peter Greenaway's Cautionary Tale" for the 1994 Conference on Film and Postmodernism at Kent State University. He also received a 1994 Summer Research Fellowship from the IU College of Arts and Sciences.

In late 1993, graduate student Chris Kearns presented "From Hollywood to Haiku: The Apocalyptic Eye of Borges and His Detectives" at the Mid-American Conference on Hispanic Literature, and "Poe's Recoil from Reason: Poetry of the Counter Sublime" at the 1993 MLA convention in Toronto. He also presented "Placing the Body in Bakhtin's Thought: Carnival and Aesthetics as Counter-Epistemology" at the Bakhtin Symposium in Lubbock, Texas, in January; "As the Mannequin Glances Back: Walter Benjamin on Sunset Boulevard" at the 22nd annual Twentieth-Century Literature Conference in February; and "Divided in Twain: Detecting the Postcolonial in *Pudd'nhead Wilson*" at the American Literature Association Conference in San Diego in June. His article "Rereading Borges Rereading: A Question of Marginality" was published in the summer 1993 issue of *Symploke*.

In May, Professor Oscar Kenshur delivered the keynote address at a conference on the philosopher Pierre Bayle, at the Centre d'Etudes sur Rhétorique, Philosophie et Histoire des Idées, École Normale Supérieure de Fontenay-St. Cloud. His book *Dilemmas of Enlightenment: Studies in the Rhetoric and Logic of Ideology* appeared in the University of California Press's New Historicism Series in November 1993.

Professor Barbara Klinger received an Instructional Development Fellowship from the IU Dean of Faculties Office for the summer of 1994. Her book *Melodrama and Meaning: History, Culture, and the Films of Douglas Sirk* has been published by Indiana University Press. Beginning this fall, Klinger will assume the directorship of film studies at IU.

Graduate student Neepa Majumdar presented "The Native Looks Back: Self-Representation and the Dual Process of Othering in Indian Popular Cinema" at the 1993 M/MLA Conference in Minneapolis. She also presented "All Talking, All Singing, All Dancing: An Introduction to Indian Popular Cinema" in April as part of Indiana University's India Studies Lecture Series.

Graduate student Lisa McNee presented "Mythical Lives: Rewriting History Through Autobiography" at Ngugi wa Thiong'o: Texts and Contexts, held at State College, Pennsylvania, in April. She was also awarded a Regionalist Africanist Fellowship, and was cho-

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Comparative Literature Program

Chair Henry Geduld
News Editor Mark Best

College of Arts and Sciences

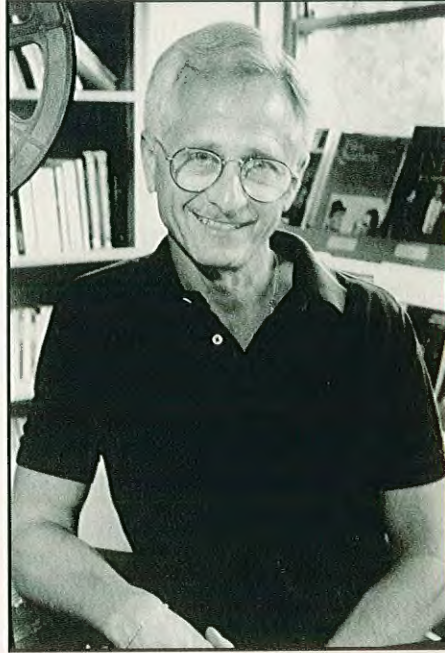
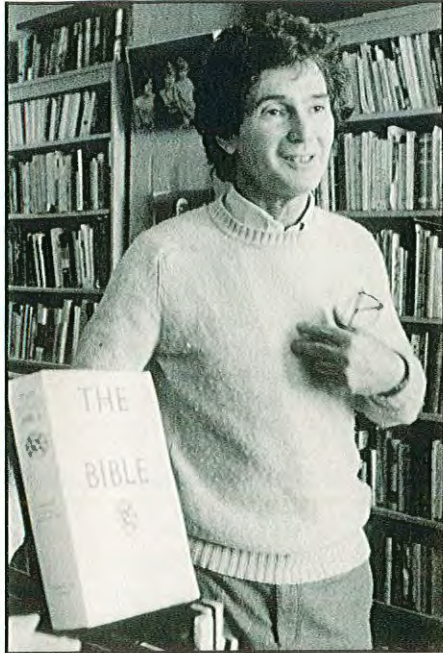
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THE
COLLEGE

Comparative Literature faculty receive honors



Barnstone, left, and Naremore are among the faculty who were honored this year

Faculty members of the IU Comparative Literature Program have enjoyed considerable recognition and honor from Indiana University and the state of Indiana during the last three years. For two successive years, members of the comparative literature faculty have been named Distinguished Professors during the IU Founders Day ceremonies held each spring.

As noted in last year's *Encompass*, the naming of Peter Bondanella as Distinguished Professor made comparative literature the only department in the humanities to receive this distinction in the 1992-93 academic year. The title of Distinguished Professor is conferred upon faculty whose academic work has brought recognition to the university. Bondanella's book *Italian Cinema: From Neorealism to the Present* has received the President's Award of the American Association for Italian Studies, and *The Eternal City: Roman Images in the Modern World* was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. During the past three years, he has added three new books to

the list of his works.

Willis Barnstone was named Distinguished Professor on March 4, 1994, the 174th birthday of Indiana University. Professor Barnstone has been nominated twice for the Pulitzer Prize; has authored more than 50 books; and has received numerous fellowships throughout his career, including the Guggenheim, Fulbright, Danforth, National Endowment for the Arts, and National Endowment for the Humanities. The list of his many works includes 10 written in the past three years alone, among them *The Poetics of Translation*, *Six Masters of the Spanish Sonnet*, *With Borges on an Ordinary Evening in Buenos Aires: A Memoir*, several anthologies of his translations of poetry from around the world, and collections of his own poetry and fiction.

Professor Ilinca Johnston also received high honors from Indiana University this year, being named 1993-94 Outstanding Young Faculty. This highly selective award goes to candidates who have demonstrated

an academic career of excellence and significance. Professor Johnston's recent work includes *On The Heights of Despair*, a translation of the work of E.M. Cioran, published by Chicago University Press.

Professor James Naremore was awarded the Tracy Sonneborn Prize in 1994 by the Dean of Faculties Office at IU Bloomington. The Sonneborn Award was initiated in 1985 to honor distinguished teaching and research by IU faculty members. Professor Naremore has also received a Summer Faculty Fellowship from IU, a Senior Research Fellowship from the Center for Advanced Study at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., and a Guggenheim Fellowship this year. His book *The Magic of Orson Welles* has recently been translated into Italian.

One of the highest honors ever awarded to a comparative literature faculty member was given to Professor Henry H. H. Remak, who was named a Sagamore of the Wabash by Indiana Gov. Evan Bayh. Among those who have been awarded the Sagamore of the Wabash are astronauts, presidents, artists, musicians, ambassadors, politicians, and other citizens of Indiana who have contributed to the Hoosier heritage. The Sagamore of the Wabash is the highest honor which the governor of Indiana bestows.

As these honors and the "Departmental update" column in this newsletter demonstrate, the faculty and students of comparative literature have been prolific scholars in the past few years. In addition to the *Yearbook of Comparative and General Literature*, which has been publishing literary scholarship for four decades, the Comparative Literature Program also supports two journals founded and run by comparative literature graduate students: *Symploke*, a literary journal, and *Cinefocus*, a film studies journal. Indeed, comparative literature faculty have achieved a record number of publications over the past three years. Forty-four books (and numerous articles) will have been published during this period, a record unsurpassed by any department in the Indiana University College of Arts and Sciences.

Update

sen for the 1994-95 Bayreuth Exchange Program.

Graduate student Christian Moraru presented "Reading the Other(ness): Bakhtin, Willa Cather, and the Dialogics of Critical Response" at the Bakhtin Symposium, held in Lubbock, Texas, in January.

Graduate student Leslie Ortquist received the IU Film Studies Dissertation Fellowship for 1994-95. She is writing her thesis on Americanism and *Girlkultur* in films from

Weimar Germany. She also presented a paper titled "Pandora's Box: The American Girl as Femme Fatale" for the Conference on Weimar Culture at the University of Arizona.

Graduate student Christopher Robinson was selected for IU's exchange program with the Université de Paris X-Nanterre. He also presented "In the Silence of the Knight: The Romance of Destruction in Kathy Acker's *Don Quichotte*" at the International Confer-

ence on Representations of Love and Hate in Atlanta last fall.

Graduate student Daniel Simon presented "The 'Elegiac Legend' of Cather's *Death Comes for the Archbishop*" at the 22nd annual Twentieth-Century Literature Conference in February.

Graduate student John Stone-Mediatore presented "The Tropics of Poetic Sound and Sense: A Psychoanalytic Approach" for the

(continued on page 4)

Alumni news

Patricia R. Reitemeier, BA'53, MA'67, PhD'78, of Los Alamos, N.M., retired in 1993 as a technical editor and writer for Los Alamos National Laboratory.

The Faculty of Arts of Sweden's Lund University conferred an honorary doctorate on **Ulrich Weisstein**, MA'53, PhD'54, IU professor emeritus of German and comparative literature. He was recognized for his pioneering work in comparative arts and for initiating a faculty study exchange between Lund and IU. Weisstein, who lives in Graz, Austria, edited *Literatur und bildende Kunst: Ein Handbuch zur Theorie und Praxis eines komparatistischen Grenzgebietes* in 1992.

Bienvenido L. Lumbea, MA'60, PhD'67, received the 1993 Ramon Magsaysay Award for his scholarship in the language and literature of the Philippines. Lumbea is professor of Philippine studies at the University of Manila.

April Arington Legler, BA'68, MLS'71, is librarian for the Schiller International University's Heidelberg campus in Germany.

Sara E. Zimmerman, MA'68, teaches English and comparative literature at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, where she is also assistant director of the educational opportunity program. She lives in Shorewood, Wis.

Sara L. Fogg, MA'69, PhD'75, is director of pastoral care at Lawrence Hospital, Bronxville, N.Y.

Henry I. Schvey, MA'72, PhD'77, pub-

lished an essay on D.H. Hwang's *M. Butterfly* in the spring 1994 issue of *Journal of American Culture*. Schvey is chair of the performing arts department at Washington University, St. Louis.

As an assignment manager for the U.S. General Accounting Office, Washington, D.C., **Bonnie A. Beckett-Hoffmann**, MA'72, PhD'77, MA'79, evaluates the Superfund hazardous waste cleanup program and prepares reports for congressional hearings. She lives in Arlington, Va.

Michele M. Hilmes, BA'75, became assistant professor in the communication arts department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in fall 1993.

Charles F. Hammond, BA'78, is founder of the Indianapolis not-for-profit Bicycle Action Project, a program enabling at-risk youth to earn bicycles by completing a work and training course. Before founding the project, Hammond marketed job training programs for the private sector.

Charles E. (Chuck) Pirtle, BA'78, MA'82, of Boulder, Colo., is an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Writing and Poetics at the Naropa Institute in Boulder, and manager of the institute's bookstore. He is finishing a doctorate in English from the University of Iowa.

Nicholas L. Strout, BA'81, MA'86, is group product manager for a German medical device manufacturer. He lives in Melsungen, Germany.

In September, **Carol E. Harding**, PhD'85, became assistant professor in the English department at Western Oregon State College, Monmouth.

Update

(continued from page 3)

International Association for Philosophy and Literature in Edmonton, Alberta, in May.

Graduate student **Julian Stringer** has had an article on director Derek Jarman, titled "Serendipity into Style: *The Queen Is Dead*," published in the fall 1993 issue of *Millennium Film Journal*.

Graduate student **Natasha C. Vaubel** won an overseas conference grant from the IU College of Arts and Sciences, and was offered a research assistantship from the Indiana Center on Global Change and World Peace at IU. She also presented "Questioning A 'Return to the Source': An Investigation of the Dialectics of East and West in Tayeb Salih's *Season of Migration to the North*" at the 20th annual African Literature Association Conference in Accra, Ghana.

Five scholars currently or formerly associated with the Comparative Literature Program participated in the third Triennial Congress of the International Association of Word and Image Studies, held at Carleton University, Ottawa, in 1993. Professor **Claus Clüver** gave the keynote address opening the congress ("On Representation in Concrete and Semiotic Poetry"). Papers by two graduate students, **Aiko Okamoto-McPhail** ("Interacting Signs in the Genji Scrolls") and **Mingfei Shi** ("Isomorphic Structures in the Work of Later Chinese Poet-Painter-Calligraphers") were presented in a session on "Chinese and Japanese Inscribed Paintings." Further contributions were made by comparative literature PhD candidate **Lewis Dibble** ("Harry Wilmer's Drawings: Visual Communication and Violation of Outline Conventions") and **Michael Webster**, MA'85, PhD'88, (Grand Valley State University, "Kurt Schwitters Assembles Poetry"). Clüver, one of the organizers of the congress, was re-elected to the association's executive committee for another three-year term. He is also serving as an editor of the Congress proceedings.

The second Horst Frenz Prize was awarded to **Ahmed Sheikh Bangura** of the University of California-Santa Barbara for his paper "Translating Islam: Islam and Linguistic Differentiation in Aminata Sow Falk's Narratives" at the 1994 American Comparative Literature Association conference held at Claremont Graduate School. The Horst Frenz Prize is awarded at the annual conference to the best student paper and presentation. The first Horst Frenz Prize was awarded last year in Bloomington.

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