Because of his numerous international contacts, Stith Thompson during his lifetime came to epitomize in many foreign circles both American folkloristics and Indiana University. In the past few years, I have heard from three oral sources, one our university chancellor, that such is still the case. The latest issue of Soviet Ethnography, 1981, reports that "...[Indiana] University has a Folklore Institute, headed since its founding in 1946 by the well-known American folklorist Stith Thompson."

Peter Voorheis