

Letter from the President

December 1, 2010



Dear InULA members,

Hello everyone! And welcome to another year with InULA. It is hard for me to believe that the first-half of my year as President has gone by so quickly! The InULA Board and all of the Committees have been hard at work this year. They have kept things running smoothly and have moved forward on several projects. Below are just a few highlights on what we have been doing.

The Program and Social Committee continues to offer a variety of outings and events around the state to include everyone in InULA events. Also, various continuing education programs (also on Breeze) will continue this year. And please consider attending our annual December luncheon on Friday, December 10 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center Grand Hall.

After a high turnout last December, our annual luncheon will be held again at the Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center Grand Hall. After changing venues in 2009, attendance at our annual luncheon soared to a near record last December. Our speakers for the December 2010 luncheon will be Anita Bracalente and Jim Capsheew. They will talk about the Dunn's Woods restoration project. The cost of the InULA luncheon is \$7.50 for InULA members and \$10.00 for non-InULA members. Please RSVP at <http://www.iidc.indiana.edu/cedir/invitation/inula.html>.

Named in honor of Moses F. Dunn, the farmer who sold his land to Indiana University in 1883, Dunn's Woods was described by the Indiana University Board of Trustees at the time, as "a site unsurpassed in the state for its natural beauty and fitness for the purpose." The woods generally are located east of Indiana Avenue, behind Bryan Hall. In 1980, the woods, along with the surrounding Bloomington campus buildings known as the Old Crescent, were added to the National Register of Historic places, following a long history of individuals who sought to preserve the Bloomington campus green spaces and historic buildings.

As Herman B Wells said in his last presidential address, these spaces are "our most precious islands of green and serenity -- our most important physical asset, transcending even classrooms, libraries, and laboratories in their ability to inspire students to dream long dreams...."

The Board has recognized the need to revise the membership form and the renewal process. The current online form for InULA membership will be updated and will include a PayPal option next summer. Jennifer Laherty has done much work coordinating the setup needed before our PayPal account becomes functional. The InULA Board recommended that a draft membership form be created, which includes payment with a PayPal option for membership dues next summer (2011).

When approved, the new online form will be posted on the InULA website. The new PayPal option should be up and running by the next membership year, which runs from July 1, 2011 until June 30, 2012. Additionally, we are looking into adding Google Analytics to our website to help track data, online task completion, and help us distinguish between visitors looking for information and those actually engaged with our website.

The Scholarships and Grants Committee also has been very busy allocating our research funds to deserving applicants. For the October 15, 2010 grant cycle, the committee recommended that awards go to Angela Courtney and Jo McClamroch. Angela received funding for a September Digital Resources in the Humanities Conference held in London, England. She joined a colleague in presenting a paper on the creation of digital humanities scholarship. Jo received funding for travel to the Charleston Conference in November, where she delivered a presentation on print and electronic journals.

The Board has recognized the need for grants and scholarship forms to be interactive. That is, scholarship and grant applicants should be able to fill out interactive forms online and submit them electronically. The Board will be paving the way for implementation of interactive scholarship and grant forms by next summer (2011).

This is just some of the work that has been happening since September of this year. My next report will include the work of other committees. I hope you will let me or any other Board member know if you have any comments, suggestions, or questions about how we are doing or what you would like us to be doing. This is your librarian organization. Please consider becoming involved in InULA as well.

Serving on an InULA committee is a very rewarding, productive, and enjoyable experience. As a statewide university librarian organization of more than 80 members, InULA really has the unique opportunity to extend additional, free online continuing educational programs to every IU campus library, grants and scholarships to InULA members of merit statewide, and more low-cost social events within central and southern Indiana to its members. Active participation is the key to success.

Until next time,

Steven R. Miller
InULA President, 2010-2011
stevmill@iupui.edu