Dear Colleagues,

Each passing day draws me nearer to retirement. In my April newsletter, I ruminated on letting go. Some thought it was my last EVCAA News. Not so, this is my last. I began writing these monthly missives in October of 2000 at a time when rumblings of unrest began to percolate across the campus about a lack of communication. To paraphrase that opening paragraph, I hoped to keep the faculty informed of important issues relative to our work. And after ninety-two issues, I trust that I have remained faithful to that promise. It certainly has been a pleasure to provide information about the work of Academic Affairs and the university and to offer reflective tidbits about a potpourri of subjects from the personal to the profane. Shortly after Johnny posts the newsletter on the web, I begin thinking about the next issue. Since I’ll miss doing these, I’ve made a promise to myself that, at least for the next twelve months until I’m fully settled into retirement, to pen an EVCAA News to an imaginary faculty. Ken Smith has even suggested that I do a blog. Imagine my ramblings on the current state of higher education! Whatever I do in those first days of retirement, I can assure you that on July 1, my mind will not automatically become a tabula rasa. Thirty-eight years in higher education as professor and academic administrator cannot be wiped away so easily. As Tom Vander Ven’s poem suggests (page 9), I’ll have an abundance of quiet moments to ponder the possibilities of what to do next.
With my impending retirement is the inevitable series of last events. A fortnight ago, I made my last ceremonial greetings at the Teaching and Learning conference. I welcomed friends of the university and welcomed graduates and honorees at the year-end ceremonies of the Leighton School of Business and Economics, the Raclin School of the Arts, and at the School of Health Sciences nursing pinning. I’ve given my last Academic Affairs report to the Academic Senate and marched in my last commencement. Amist the pomp and circumstance, I watched each graduate, recalling my exhortations to them when they first arrived on campus to be dutiful and purposeful about their studies, to explore subjects outside of their comfort zone, to be mindful of the confluence of their learning and appreciate that science informs literature, that philosophy engages art, and that history and religion intertwine. I suggested then that they develop lifelong habits of reading and discovery. I asked that they engage their instructors, to seek them out for advice, to probe their minds and develop a mentor/mentee relationship with them. This wellspring of advice among others compiled “Uncle Alfred’s Rules for College Success.” I reminded them that each was unique in their values and life circumstances. I urged them to remain open to what they would learn and experience over the course of their college career. And if they would do these things faithfully, their lives would be transformed. That transformation would not demand necessarily an abandonment of their core values but would give them a broader appreciation and understanding of the different ways of being, seeing and living. Ultimately, the transformation I was expecting was that of Michiana resident to global citizen. And as I looked past each graduate and observed the faculty, I felt confident that the seed of that transformation was not only planted but nurtured.

So now that all my official ceremonial duties are done, the next few weeks will be occupied with packing my office and preparing it for Johnny. I’m frequently asked mostly by friends and associates in the community about how I will adjust to retirement. No need to worry. After many months of dreading the inevitable, I’m embracing retirement as a gift. It is simply the beginning of new adventures; travel, reading, gardening, dancing and discovery. The research I abandoned so many years ago, when I donned the administrative cloak, beckons. My re-entry into the life of the mind begins with a Dean’s Seminar in Spring of 2014, and most likely, teaching a Master of Liberal Studies class in the following Fall. Seemingly, the talk I presented in Belgium last spring at the Royal Academy whetted my appetite and renewed my interests in the nineteenth-century French literature of Louisiana and the peculiar relationship between the white aristocracy and the caste of gens de couleur libres (the Creoles of Color). My family’s personal story is connected with this unique American experience.

But before I recommence on that scholarly journey, I will make as seamless a transition as I can from being Alfred the executive vice chancellor to being simply Alfred. At the end of the day on June 28, I will close the door to my office, a symbolic gesture that closes the Guillaume chapter. On Monday morning, July 1, when Johnny McIntosh opens that same door, he will be opening an entirely new chapter in the academic life of the university. He and the new chancellor, Terry Allison, with support from the faculty and staff, will guide the university in new directions. The past will not be forgotten; the accomplishments of the last fourteen years stand as a solid foundation for what surely will be an extraordinary and productive future.

Rather than closing with the finality of an adieu or good-bye, my preference is to end with à bientôt, leaving possibilities for chance encounters. As occasions arise, we will visit again. Thank you for the privilege of serving you. Words pale in expressing my gratitude. You are an extraordinarily gifted faculty and staff.

Sincerely,

Alfred J. Guillaume, Jr.,
Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Undergraduate Research Conference
On April 19 a highly successful annual Undergraduate Research Conference was held on campus. A total of 19 panels as well as a poster session were held and more than 75 students participated, presenting their research efforts to those in attendance. Congratulations to the students and their mentors. [program]

Social Worker of the Year
Congratulations to Carol Rippey Massat (SOCW) who was named Social Worker of the Year by Region 2 of the Indiana Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers.

SoTL Conference
The annual Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Conference was held April 26th.

Advisor Award
Congratulations to Catherine Borshuk (PSY) and Deb Marr (BIOL) who were named co-recipients of the CLAS Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award.

Graduation Media Coverage
Photos: South Bend Tribune | Elkhart Truth
Stories: Fox28 | WSBT
A Year-Long Leave Well Spent
submitted by Lee Streby

At the conclusion of the spring 2012 semester, music professor and composer Jorge Muñiz took a year-long leave of absence from IUSB to accompany his wife, Dr. Jennifer Muñiz, who had accepted a full time, tenure track position in piano and theory at Central Methodist University (CMU) in Columbia, MO. Jorge also accepted a teaching position as a composer and scholar at CMU as well. With a reduced teaching load for the year consisting mostly of studio composition students, Jorge was able to focus his time almost exclusively on creative work. As a result, the past year has been one of the most prolific in Jorge’s internationally-recognized composition career. Both Jorge and Jennifer will be returning to the music faculty of the Ernestine M. Raclin School of the Arts at IU South Bend in fall, 2013.

Jorge’s flurry of musical activities the past year began last summer right after IUSB graduation. In June, Jorge served as Composer in Residence at the Goshen College Piano Workshop, which had commissioned him to write a new work for two pianos. The piece, entitled Three American Nocturnes, was enthusiastically received by piano teachers and students from across the Midwest in its premiere at Sauder Concert Hall on June 21, 2012. As an “homage” to Chopin, father of the nocturne, Jorge drew his inspiration from the hip-hop rhythms of Chicago’s urban nightlife, the tranquil moonlit water of the St. Joseph River where it meets Lake Michigan in St. Joseph, and salsa music heard on the streets of Miami after dark.

Once settled in Columbia, Jorge began composing his Piano Quintet No. 2, completing the first draft by August. This work was commissioned by the Luis G. Iberni Piano Festival in Oviedo, Spain. The renowned Cuarteto Quiroga and guest pianist will perform the world premiere of the quintet at this festival in fall, 2013. Jorge notes that he wrote his first piano quintet 16 years ago in his native country of Spain. Inspired by his many years living and working in the US, he says that the second quintet is “completely American, inspired by the great Mississippi River.” The plaintive Preamble movement is entitled Lake Itasca, MN, where the river begins. The bright Scherzo: St. Louis, MO draws colorful material from St. Louis rag and blues. Ballad: Memphis, TN is a tender homage to “The King” Elvis Presley himself. Finale: New Orleans, LA is dedicated to IU South Bend’s own Dr. Alfred J. Guillaume, Jr. and his wife, Melanie, capturing zydeco-influenced sounds and rhythms straight from the Crescent City.

With ink barely dry on this score, Jorge received a request from faculty soprano Ami Bouterse at the University of Wisconsin - Parkside in Kenosha, WI, to write a vocal work on the subject of AIDS. The university hosted an exhibition of panels from the AIDS Memorial Quilt in the fall. The music department presented a faculty concert featuring the growing national AIDS Song Book project. Jorge was commissioned to contribute to the collection with his piece for soprano and piano. For the text, Jorge chose the 1988 poem “AIDS” by May Sarton, written as the author’s anguished response to the growing worldwide epidemic. The world premiere was performed in Kenosha on November 4, 2012, with the composer present.

As Jorge began to meet colleagues at the University of Missouri and Central Methodist University, he received a second commission in the fall from Stefan Freund, faculty composer and Artistic Director of the University of Missouri’s nationally recognized Mizzou New Music Ensemble. Jorge began composing a new work for one of the group’s spring concerts. The work, entitled Duende: Fantasy for Chamber Ensemble, completed in January, 2013, is scored for violin, flute, clarinet, bass clarinet, cello, piano, and percussion. Inspired by poet Federico García Lorca’s definition of “duende” as “spontaneous creation,” the work fuses material from three different Spanish flamenco styles with elements of improvisation. As part of his composer residency at the University of Missouri, Jorge worked with the students and director to prepare the work for its premiere on March 3, 2013.

Just prior to this March performance, the Tutti New Music Festival at Denison University in Granville, OH, presented the American premiere of Jorge’s Estampas (2008) for tenor, chorus, and piano on February 23, with the composer present.

A larger musical work was also commissioned from Central Methodist University in the fall. The university would be honoring their retiring president, Marianne Inman, at the close of the 2013 academic year. Jorge composed Celebration! for symphonic wind ensemble and worked with the ensemble and conductor for rehearsals. This surprise musical gift was just recently performed at a special celebratory concert on April 28, 2013.

continues on p. 4
Following the premiere of *Duende* in March, Jorge traveled with his wife, pianist Jennifer Muñiz, to the College Music Society’s Great Plains Conference at the University of Nebraska – Kearney. They were invited to perform *Three American Nocturnes* for delegates on March 16. His *Concert Etude* (2001) for solo flute was also selected for performance and Jennifer gave a performance-lecture on the piano repertoire of Mussorgsky and Ives (Jorge and Jennifer also gave another performance of the nocturnes at Central Methodist University later in April). Immediately after the conference, Jorge flew from Nebraska back to IU South Bend for the world premiere of *Funk*, which was commissioned in 2011 by Duo Sonidos, a young American ensemble featuring violin and guitar. This work had its first performance at IUSB’s Recital Hall on March 19, a second performance on March 20 in Traverse City, MI, and once again performed on a joint radio broadcast concert by Duo Sonidos on WGBH Boston and WFMT Chicago on April 30 [link to a recording of the performance; the performance begin at 24:00 into the broadcast]. *Funk* was inspired by 1970’s funk music, specifically the guitar and bass riffs of Jimi Hendrix and Bootsy Collins.

In February, Jorge was contacted by his friend, Roberto Alvarez, flutist and principal piccolo of the Singapore Symphony Orchestra. Alvarez requested rights to record Jorge’s *Concert Etude* for solo flute on his upcoming album. He had previously commissioned and recorded Muñiz’s *La Nueche de San Xuan* (2011) for flute and harp. Alvarez also mentioned that he had been invited to perform a piccolo recital for the upcoming 2013 Australian Flute Festival, and asked Jorge if he had time to write another new work? Jorge says, “I already had music in my mind just waiting to be written down!” Inspired by the 50th anniversary of the death of Francis Poulenc in 2013, one of Jorge’s most admired composers, Jorge quickly composed his *Sonata for Piccolo and Piano: Homage to Francis Poulenc* in just a couple of weeks. The work features an opening humoresque, a solemn processional, and a boisterous final dance. Jorge further notes, “This music honors the humor and spirit of Poulenc’s masterpieces for woodwinds, rather than using direct quotes from him.” The world premiere is scheduled for October 7, 2013 in Canberra, Australia, with Roberto Alvarez, piccolo, and Alan Hicks, piano.

Following the piccolo score, there was still more music to be written! Jorge spent his winter break orchestrating *Three American Nocturnes* as his second *Concerto for Piano and Orchestra*, a work that he hopes to see premiered at a later time. In late March, the Spanish group Duo Saxperience commissioned a second woodwind sonata for a performance at the Festival of Spanish Music of León, Spain. By April 30, Jorge delivered the score: *Sonata for Alto Saxophone and Piano: Motown Dreams*, inspired by the Detroit automobile industry and drawing on elements of R&B, soul, and Motown sounds. The three movements are entitled 1964 Ford Mustang, 1970 Pontiac GTO, and 1973 Chevrolet Corvette. The premiere is scheduled for June 27, 2013 in León, Spain.

---

**Faculty Spotlight: Betty Mooney**

**The Professor Behind the Most Popular Course on Campus: A Retrospective**

submitted by Lee Streby

Elizabeth (Betty) Mooney, Associate Faculty member in sociology, has been teaching at IU South Bend since 1983. At the end of this school year, this sharp, honest, and beloved lecturer in her late 80s will retire from IU South Bend, though she doesn’t intend to stop working at all. Betty has devoted her career to teaching, research, and counseling in human sexuality, with her primary focus being adolescence. She leaves after three decades of teaching what has arguably been the most popular course among students at IUSB: Sociology S-164, Marital Relations and Sexuality. Offered annually each spring semester, the course is routinely “sold out” with a long wait list.

Betty’s career began in the field of education in the early 1950s, with focused interest in psychology. She completed her bachelor’s degree at Beloit College in only three years and then got her master’s degree in education from the University of Wisconsin at Madison in 1953. She simultaneously began working on a PhD during her master’s program there. She recalls, “It was an intense department at the time. I had no less than seven dissertation proposals rejected by my committee.” She ended up putting the doctorate on hold and went to work. From 1950-1952, Betty joined a University of
Wisconsin fellowship team in Venezuela to help establish safe schools in remote villages. She recalls that her job was to find safe, usable buildings that would be suitable for use as schools. Fortunately, Betty had grown up around lots of construction work in her family. She knew enough to spot integrity in building trades.

In 1953, Betty went to Paris on a Ford Foundation Grant for the Advancement of Education, a program affiliated with UNESCO and the French Bureau of Education. Her actual task was to study how Europeans teach American history, though she humorously recalls ending up working for a politically-exiled administrator because “he had been banned from the UNESCO office building itself, though he still had his job. He would call me and tell me exactly what he needed to do in the building,” she says with a laugh.

In 1956, Betty returned to the US and started teaching high school in Sheboygan, WI. It was a 14-year-old adolescent boy named Eddie that inspired Betty to choose adolescence and sexuality as her career path. Betty recalls, “Eddie was sort of a ‘downtrodden’ kind of boy, meaning sort of disheveled all the time and not apparently all that intelligent.” Betty had established two new classes at the high school, one of them being a hybrid class entitled “Freshman English and Civics.”

The civics lessons, Betty would take students out into the community to see infrastructure necessary for civic life. On one of these trips, the class visited a water treatment plant. For the English assignment, Betty asked the class to write an essay about their visit. Eddie approached and asked if he could instead draw the plant on the chalkboards. “The room had chalkboards on three walls. I thought it was an interesting request so I let him do it.” Eddie stunned her. Not only did he draw the exact engineering structures, he also had all of the chemistry processes correct. Betty remembers thinking, “I have to get to know this kid better.” She soon learned that Eddie had a girlfriend and that they were having sex.

Concerned over his safety and future, Betty went out and bought condoms and talked to Eddie about using them, and also informed the principal she had done so. She started delving into current research on adolescent sexuality for guidance, and quickly realized that the current literature was extremely lacking. “It was mostly just mythical garbage and nonsense,” she says. She was determined to help create accurate and meaningful research to help teachers, parents, and youth to understand sexuality with scientific accuracy.

By the late 60s, Betty had married a psychiatrist and joined him in private therapy practice, one that swelled to almost unmanageable size in Wisconsin. In 1967, the couple chose to move to Bloomington, Indiana. Betty’s husband joined the Indiana University Student Health Center as the staff psychiatrist. Betty went to work at the Kinsey Institute, where she learned their interview process and decoded adolescent interviews done by the Kinsey team. She also trained interviewers for the San Francisco homosexual study. Betty explained that Kinsey interviews contain over 400 questions about sexuality, conducted by trained researchers with anonymous subjects. The answers to all of the questions are recorded in cryptic shorthand on a single sheet of paper. The decoder’s job is to translate the code into narratives for the study. Her most recent research project was completed from 2006-2009, decoding 4,800 interviews of incarcerated felons done by the Kinsey team in the 1950s.

While doing research at Kinsey between 1968 and 1975, Betty also started working as the Director of Teen Services at Planned Parenthood of Monroe County. In 1975, she and her husband moved to Kalamazoo, where she began working with Planned Parenthood and teaching human sexuality at Western Michigan University and Kalamazoo College. In 1979, she transferred to Planned Parenthood in Chicago and taught at Roosevelt University. She finally settled down in 1983 as the Executive Director of Planned Parenthood in South Bend and began teaching at IUSB. For many years, Betty also maintained a private sex therapy practice in Paw Paw, MI. She retired from Planned Parenthood in 1994, but continued her teaching activities at IUSB every spring semester.

“It’s been a joy to teach here,” Betty says. “We have a fantastic department full of exceptional people who are all specialized in their own field. While there can be various wars on campus from time to time, you won’t find that in our department. There is great respect and friendship among this group.”

Her teaching philosophy is straightforward: “I teach students that ‘you own your body. You are responsible for it. If you are responsible for it, you need to understand how it works.’ It’s that simple.” Her greatest frustration is that students arrive in her class with so little knowledge. “American teachers still don’t understand sexuality or how to teach it,” she says. While students are often not prepared for the course, they respond well. Betty surmises, “I believe that they find me to be non-judgmental and accepting as well as honest. I make them feel free to participate and ask questions.”

Betty has received numerous awards and honors over the years, including several IUSB Distinguished Teaching Awards and an All University Distinguished Teaching Award. But Betty points to one particular award that is the most meaningful among her many honors. In 2006, the Institute for Advanced Study of Human Sexuality conferred upon her the Doctor of Arts, Honoris Causa, for her work. “That one was awarded by all of my peers throughout the country,” she explains, noting that the Doctor of Arts is awarded to a scholar for both their extensive theoretical knowledge as well as advanced practice in the field. Another important award was conferred on Betty in 2012. She received a Distinguished Service Award from the American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors, and Therapists (AASECT) “for many years of leadership and dedication to the success of AASECT” at its 44th annual conference in Austin, TX.

While her tenure at IU South Bend concludes this year, Betty looks forward to her next task: writing a new book. Betty is moving to Lewisburg, WV, to live with one of her daughters and her husband, a physician. (Betty has six children she and her late husband adopted or raised through foster care.) She has been compelled by her colleagues around the country to write a book on “The Five Tasks of Adolescence.” She has also agreed to give a few lectures for the Osteopathic Medical School of West Virginia. “Even medical students know nothing about sexuality and need to learn,” she says. Betty also intends to continue enjoying time each year at her second home in Greece with her large extended family.
Education & Arts Dedication
On April 17th, the Education & Arts Building was dedicated following its complete renovation. The event was covered by the South Bend Tribune and a video was produced by IU South Bend’s Lucas Eggers.

Associate Faculty/Publications Reception
On April 18 overlapping receptions were held recognizing faculty who published in the past year as well as associate faculty who had reached milestone years in their service to IU South Bend (e.g., 5, 10, 15 etc. years). Among those recognized were Anthony Luber’s (CJUS) 30 years of service and Charles Quinn’s (COIS) 25 years. Congratulations and thanks to these IUSB educators. A list of faculty publications may be found at this [link].

Chancellor Reck Recognition
Also held on April 17th, Chancellor Una Mae Reck was recognized for her 11 years of service and leadership as Chancellor to the IU South Bend campus and IU. A South Bend Tribune article featured her accomplishments (see photo above).

Kudos
The Euclid String Quartet was featured in an article appearing in the May 1 issue of inside IU.

The COUPP-60 experiment conducted by scientists from several universities across the nation, including IU South Bend, involves a new dark matter detector. Ilan Levine (PHYS) and his students are involved with this Fermilab effort.

Dora Natella (ARTS) will be one of the featured sculptors selected to exhibit in the 80th Annual Awards Exhibition of the National Sculpture Society held in Tampa (May 18 - July 27) and then traveling to Pawleys Island, SC (August 17 - October 27).

Vicki Bloom (LIBR) was awarded a Carnegie-Whitney grant by the American Library Association to prepare a guide to film and books on auto racing. Congratulations, Vicki.

Education Accreditation
The School of Education received official verification that their accreditation has been continued for the professional education unit by the NCATE (National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education) Unit Accreditation Board. Congratulations to all!
Kudos and Events

Congratulations to the 26 students and 4 faculty members who traveled to Bloomington on April 12 for the all-IU Gender Studies Undergraduate Research Conference. The photo below includes most of the students who presented gathered outside the Memorial Union at IUB. The students presented papers and in panels at the conference and represented IU South Bend well. The students and faculty traveled to Bloomington by bus (see photo below left).

Distance Education

Recently, the Center for Distance Education (CDE) review committee approved eleven courses to be developed as either a fully online or hybrid/blended course. Since Spring 2008, when our first three fully online courses were piloted, we have increased our distance education course offerings to 106. Funded faculty are a mix of encore performers (funded previously) and new adventurers. They are: Nuran Bradley, Gerrie Casey, Smiljka Cubelic, Hope Smith Davis, Samantha Joyce, Gray Lyons, Jorge Muniz, Joseph Rabbitt, Tracey Trottier, Mihaela Vajiac and Linda Wilson.

Our campus is participating in the IU-wide joint degree program advisory boards for the Bachelor of Applied Sciences and the Bachelor of Science in Informatics.

Another funding initiative, SEED (Software and Equipment for Engagement and Discovery) Grant’s application deadline is May 20, Monday. Contact CDE for more information or visit online.iusb.edu or distance.iusb.edu.

- submitted by Marianne Castano Bishop

MPA Student Receives Award

The Indiana Chapter of the American Society of Public Administration announced that Tina Slabach, a graduating MPA student, will be the recipient of this year’s Indiana Public Service Award in the category of Outstanding Student in Public Service. The award recognizes students in a public service degree program who are dedicated to the ideals of public service, engaged in their community, and at the top of their class. Congratulations to Tina and the MPA Program.

Dental Hygiene Students Provide Community Service

Our students are contributing to our community. As an example, the 2013 Dental Hygiene class provided a Sealant Clinic (March 22nd-23rd) to 95 patients, including 425 sealants and 68 Fluoride Varnish treatments. There were 102 attendees at the April 13 IUSB Health Fair, with 72 patient films (panoramic and four bite-wing x-rays), fluoride varnish treatments, dental exams, and dental sealants provided. There were 16 blood donations for the Blood Mobile which saves 48 lives. In addition, patient care, training for the CNAs about oral health and geriatric patients, and education of LaPorte County 4th graders about oral health in the Little Fish program were provided at IU Health LaPorte Community Dental Clinic. The students and their faculty also planned and implemented a fluoride varnish program at Head Start South Bend and Mishawaka, a free Dental Day for residents of the Center for the Homeless and YWCA, and a health fair at Reins of Life. All activities involved donated supplies and volunteer time (with substantial value and savings provided! Thank you students and your sponsors as well, including: Midway Dental Supply, the Blood Mobile/South Bend Medical Foundation, SGA, and the IU South Bend faculty and staff in Dental Education.

(photos courtesy Catherine Borshuk)
Two events were held recently to honor Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Alfred J. Guillaume, Jr., for his many contributions and outstanding leadership to IU South Bend. Dr. Guillaume arrived at IU South Bend in 1999 and will retire at the end of June. On May 1 an on-campus event was held and on May 4 a dinner event took place in downtown South Bend. Our sincerest thanks for your service to IU and our campus, Alfred! We wish you the best in your well-deserved retirement and wonderful travels to you and Melanie. (photo above from May 1 event and right from May 4). At the May 4 event EVCAA Guillaume was named a Distinguished Hoosier by action of the Governor and an international study scholarship was established in his honor.

New Director of CRHC

We are pleased to announce that Marc Rodriguez is the new director of the Civil Rights Heritage Center [press release]. Currently a research fellow at University of Wisconsin Law School, Marc has also served in various roles at the University of Notre Dame, Southern Methodist University, and Princeton. He has a doctorate in history from Northwestern University as well as a law degree from University of Wisconsin School of Law. As EVCAA Guillaume notes, “Marc comes to his new leadership role with a wealth of knowledge in Civil Rights and Cultural History. A respected scholar, he brings added connections to other prominent voices in cultural and ethnic studies that will enhance programming at the Civil Rights Heritage Center/Natatorium.” Marc will begin his appointment as CHRC Director on July 1st. Welcome, Marc.

Student Prize Winner

Eric Hankin, a student in Lee Kahan’s ENG-E 302 course, English literature from 1600-1800, is the recipient of this year’s Library Prize for Undergraduate Research. According to Dean Vicki Bloom of the Schurz Library, “his insightful and well-written paper, An Act of Concealment: The Portrayal of Physical Aesthetics in Jonathan Swift’s ‘The Lady’s Dressing Room’ demonstrated a sophisticated ability to locate, interpret and integrate a wide variety of quality primary and secondary information sources.”
On the Occasion of the Retirement of Alfred J. Guillaume, Jr.: A Poem by Tom Vander Ven, Professor Emeritus of English

The Egg of Being

Down on Kinsman Road
you’d better take matters
into your own hands.
You need to keep on your—
An egg rolls out from under
the Jackson cabinet—watch your step!—
wobbles like a top in an unseen
dip of the elderly oaken floor, then
this gyroculprit careens
off into the green kitchen.

At the end of the long hall, ten
giddy eggs pose like pins—
rent some shoes!
Albumin pools of is and maybe
are oscillating, asking for it,
daring you to bowl a strike.

In the sunroom of reveries,
Monsieur Vice Chancellor sips
a cappuccino and with a croissant stirs
the protean yolk of memory, wonders
at its yellow eddy, the swirl
of then and could be.

Music rises in retirement, as seven
incarnations of melodic egg,
deified, hollandaised, fallopian
down the carnival chute, sing out
like canaries in a mountain symphony,
“Gloria, globular, global, glory be!”