Spring 2015

Chalkboard
Indiana University School of Education Alumni Association

Focus on urban schools:
new PhD at IUPUI
bringing new scholars into the field

IU Honors Kuh with top award

Award-winning alum writes books on young people in history, untold stories of nature
ELPS doctoral student co-curates Mathers art exhibit, examines “educational life history” of Nobel winner

"I am especially interested in their intellectual contributions, in particular, how they contributed so much to interdisciplinary studies. But, there’s also this kind of unique appeal to getting to combine their private and their public life."

"I identify as a historian of education, but I also define education very broadly," she said. "I am interested in teaching and learning what happens both in and outside of schools." In this case, she viewed the collection as an insight into how a Nobel Prize winner became such an intellectual. The Ostrom collection represents something of the collective work of Lin and Vincent.

"More and more, I realize that their relationship was key to understanding her," Clark said. "I am especially interested in their intellectual contributions, in particular, how they contributed so much to interdisciplinary studies. But, there’s also this kind of unique appeal to getting to combine their private and their public life."

The Ostroms left behind rich detail along with the collection that helps place those aspects of their lives together. They kept explicitly detailed travelogues of their journeys, which included the price of gasoline and fruit market purchases. They logged their time at the Canadian cabin in diaries.

With that broad educational view, Clark is examining the couple’s summer home stays to write what she believes will be an "educational life history" of Lin Ostrom. The cabin time is key to understanding how she became an immortal of economic research. "They did not retreat there to summer in this sort of relaxing way," Clark said. "They were constantly working. They were producing the scholarship that we all knew them for."

A digital display of the Ostrom exhibit is online at the Mathers Museum web site, http://www.indiana.edu/~mathers/.