



November 14, 2012

Wellness is Theme of ICI Kickoff on November 19

Wellness is the theme of the 2012 Institute on Community Integration (ICI) Fall Kickoff, which will be held on Monday, November 19, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the University's McNamara Alumni Center. "The Kickoff is an important way for all of us to spend some time together getting to know colleagues we don't necessarily work with on a daily basis, learn more about what's going on across ICI, and enjoy fun and good food," says ICI director David Johnson. "I'd encourage all ICI staff to set aside this time and plan to attend."

This year's Kickoff will be held in the A.I. Johnson Great Room at the McNamara Center and will explore how staff wellness might be used to further ICI's mission of serving people with disabilities and their families. Connie Burkhart, chair of the Kickoff committee, says the event will explore various aspects of wellness, including nutrition, exercise, stress release, CPR, music, and laughter. She explains that when employees feel well, they work more effectively and are less likely to be absent from the job. "Promoting wellness is not only for people with disabilities; it's for all of us," says Connie. "This year's Kickoff is about wellness and we want people to be happy and feel good about working at ICI."

Details are still being finalized by the Kickoff Committee, comprised of Connie, Laurene Christensen, Melissa Critchley, Mark Olson, Amanda Ryan, and Pam Stenhjem, but the agenda so far includes the following:

- Comments by ICI director David R. Johnson.
- Presentation by Rebecca Reike on 12 steps to wellness.
- CPR demonstration.
- Memorial for Stephanie Evelo.
- Surprise guests.
- Fun activities with prizes.
- Introduction of new staff.
- Award presentations.
- Drumming presentation.
- Lunch catered by D'Amico's.

Jessica Mooney, Marketing Communications Manager for the College of Education and Human Development and a former ICI employee, will be Master of Ceremonies for this year's event. She recently received local and national media attention for her Facebook persona named "Dressy Jessie."

A fun activity at Kickoff this year will be a Minnesota hot dish recipe contest. Committee member Mark Olson e-mailed staff, asking them to send him their hot dish recipes by November 12. Each table at Kickoff will contain the ingredients to one of the top 10 submissions chosen by the committee; these hot dish ingredients will be given away as a prize. All recipes, including those received after November 12, will be published in a *Hot Dish Handbook* after the event.

E-mail invitations for the Kickoff were sent November 7. The ICI program area with the most attendees will win a pizza party.

FFI about the Kickoff, please contact Connie at burkh021@umn.edu or (612) 626-8675.

Staff Update

- **Staff Hires:** **Eileen Klemm**, Coordinator, Transition; **Anne Roehl**, Coordinator, Adult Services; **Rosanne Gates** and **Jenny Pearson**, Temporary/Casual Employees, Adult Services. **Staff Departure:** **Allise Wuorio**, Coordinator, Adult Services.
- **Kurt Rutzen** appeared on the cover of the Winter 2012-13 issue of *Apostrophe* magazine, which contained a feature story about him. An article about Quality Mall, featuring **John Smith**, was in the same issue. The online edition is at <http://apostrophemagazine.com/winter-2012-13-3/>.
- **Karen Stout** was a panelist for the program "High school dropouts: Should we let them go?" on The Daily Circuit, a news program aired by Minnesota Public Radio on November 5. To hear the broadcast, visit <http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2012/11/05/daily-circuit-high-school-dropouts/>.
- **Mary McEathron** spoke on "Logic Models and Grant Proposals" at the College's monthly Coffee Break for Grants on November 14.
- **Joe Timmons** made two presentations on supporting college-bound students with disabilities. The first was for special education staff at Bloomington Public Schools on October 17; the second was at the Education Minnesota Conference on October 18.
- **Sharon Mulé** presented on the Check & Connect program at the 102nd Annual Conference for Truancy and Dropout Prevention in New Orleans, October 23.

Dates to Remember...

- November 22-23: University closed
- December 11: ICI Council Meeting, 10:30-12, 118 Pattee
- December 14: ICI Winter Gathering, 11:30-1:30, 325 Education Sciences Building

From the Front Office

News from ICI's Administrative Staff

- **Benefits Open Enrollment.** UPlan Open Enrollment is November 1-30. This is the only time during the year when University employees can change their health plan coverage. During Open Enrollment, employees can choose a different medical and dental plan, add or cancel medical and dental plans, re-enroll in a flexible spending account for 2013, enroll in long-term disability, and if eligible, increase an existing amount of short-term disability. Provider directories can be found on the reception table in 102 Pattee Hall. FFI, visit <http://www1.umn.edu/ohr/benefits/openenroll/index.html>.
- **ICI Winter Gathering.** On December 14, ICI will hold its annual Winter Gathering in 325 Educational Sciences Building, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. RSVP information will be e-mailed after Thanksgiving break.
- **Updated ICI Phone List.** You can find an updated ICI Phone List on Orpheus at <http://ici.umn.edu/intranet> under "Quick Links," on the right under "ICI Staff Directory."
- **Heating Season.** The heat is on in the building, but remember that Pattee Hall has steam heat that operates differently

than household systems. Heat will cycle on and off throughout the course of a day, but less often on weekends. Regardless of a heating valve's setting, it only functions during an "on" cycle. While the goal is to keep Pattee Hall temperatures comfortable, it is inevitable that heat will vary throughout the building. Due to the layout of the building, adjusting the temperature to suit one office may have the opposite effect on another. Administrative staff in Room 102 are monitoring concerns, but ask that areas allow at least three days of temperature monitoring before reporting major concerns to the Front Office. Dressing in layers or using a personal fan may help keep employees comfortable.

- **Personal Holiday Reminder.** The holiday season is approaching and staff may extend their holiday cheer. Just a reminder that Civil Service, Bargaining Units, Professional and Administrative, and Graduate Research Assistants may use their Personal Holiday, if they haven't done so already. Questions? Contact Amy Kurowski (kuro0008@umn.edu) or Beth Nelson (nelso106@umn.edu).

Miscellaneous

- **New Report on Parents with Disabilities.** The National Council on Disabilities (NCD) has published a new policy study, *Rocking the Cradle: Ensuring the Rights of Parents with Disabilities and Their Children*, which provides a comprehensive overview of factors that support and obstruct Americans with all kinds of disabilities from exercising their fundamental right to begin and maintain families. Among the work cited throughout is that of Traci Laliberte and Liz Lightfoot of the University of Minnesota School of Social Work, including earlier work published by them through ICI's *Impact and Policy Research Brief* newsletter series. The report is available on NCD's Web site at <http://www.ncd.gov/publications/2012/Sep272012/>.
- **The Arc Honors Cliff Poetz.** There will be a "Heroes of The Arc Minnesota Luncheon" honoring ICI's Cliff Poetz and others on December 7 at Midland Hills Country Club in Roseville. FFI, visit <http://www.thearcofminnesota.org/>,

click on "Events" in the left navigation column, and then click on "Heroes of The Arc Minnesota Luncheon." Donations will be accepted at the event. RSVP with Dawn at 651-604-8070 or dawnl@arcmn.org by November 19.

- **Pac Rim Conference.** The 29th Annual Pacific Rim ("Pac Rim") Conference on Disability and Diversity, 2013, "Being in Community," will be held in Honolulu, Hawaii, April 29-30, 2013. Pac Rim is one of the world's top-rated international educational offerings, and the conference's Call for Proposals will be open through January 7, 2013. FFI, visit: www.pacrim.hawaii.edu, e-mail prinfo@hawaii.edu or phone 808-956-7539.
- **Birthdays.** Laurene Christensen (11/19), Maureen Hawes (11/20), Sheryl Larson (11/26), Amber Schmidt (12/3), and Karen Stout (12/5). Did we miss your birthday? Let us know! Call 4-2380 or e-mail kuro0008@umn.edu.

Bits & Pieces

Information on New Publications and Web Sites

- **New Publications.** The following new ICI publications are available:
 - *Technical Report 65: A Summary of the Research on the Effects of Test Accommodations: 2009-2010* (November 2012). Published by the Institute's National Center on Educational Outcomes (NCEO) and available on the Web at <http://www.cehd.umn.edu/NCEO/OnlinePubs/Tech65/default.htm>.
 - *Technical Report 66: Test Administrators' Perspectives on the Use of the Read Aloud Accommodation in Math on State Tests for Accountability* (October 2012). Published by NCEO and available on the Web at <http://www.cehd.umn.edu/NCEO/OnlinePubs/Tech66/default.htm>.
- **College of Direct Support Course.** "Implementing Participant-Directed Supports" is the newest DirectCourse/College of Direct Support (CDS) online course. Authored by the Institute's Research and Training Center on Community Living, the course is written for people who make decisions about their supports, as well as family members and allies who may be delegated to assist the individual they support in their decision-making. FFI, visit <http://directcourseonline.com/directsupport/2012/10/29/new-college-of-direct-support-course-implementing-participant-directed-supports/>.
- **Book Chapter on Assessing Student Performance.** Renáta Tichá and Teri Wallace co-authored the chapter "Extending Curriculum-Based Measurement to Assess Performance of Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities" in *A Measure of Success: The Influence of Curriculum-Based Measurement on Education*, a book that was published by University of Minnesota Press in September. FFI, visit <http://www.upress.umn.edu/book-division/books/a-measure-of-success>.
- **FYI Deadline.** Items for the next FYI should be submitted to Tom (donag003@umn.edu) by December 7.