

Institute Staff in the Spotlight

•Scott McConnell has been appointed as Deputy Director of the Institute on Community Integration. In the past two years, Scott has worked to develop an interdisciplinary training program in early education. He has also contributed to the research agenda of the Institute. His responsibilities will primarily include assisting the Director in the day-to-day management of the Institute. Congratulations on the new position, Scott!

•Claudette Thompson has recently joined the Partnership for School Success Dropout Prevention Program. She will serve as the Community Liaison between Anwatin and Northeast Middle Schools and the surrounding communities. Claudette will be working closely with Mary Sinclair and David Evelo. We are glad to have her on board!

•Anna Feiser, located on the balcony in Room 102, recently changed her appointment with the Institute from a Student Secretary to a Word Processing Operator. She has increased her time from 50% (20 hours/week) to 75% (30 hours/week). Her responsibilities include assisting Sharon, Denise, Bob and Peter. Anna is now in charge of the keys for Pattee Hall, so please see her to sign out keys in the future. Her office hours are from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Anna also orders supplies for Room 102 and for the Copy Room on the first floor (Room 105). Her telephone number is 626-8042.

Institute Receives New Inservice Training Grant

With the emergence of transition and inclusion issues for students with disabilities, secondary educators have had to reexamine curricular, instructional, and teamwork practices. Many are recognizing the need to move away from traditional models of service delivery to seek more collaborative ways of supporting youth with disabilities become fully included in school and community life.

The Institute, in cooperation with the Rum River Education Cooperative, has received funding from the United States Department of Education to develop and field-test a series of inservice training modules to be delivered to teams of secondary general educators, special educators, and related services personnel over the course of the three year grant period. The modules will be developed collaboratively by teams of school, community, and human service personnel. Modules will be sequenced so that the content is cumulative. At the end of the three year period, the secondary educators will have received a carefully sequenced series of inservice activities.

This project is a pilot effort to conceptualize staff development as a longitudinal, sequenced, and cumulative series of training activities. University credit will be made available to participants in the inservice activities. The grant award from the United States Department of Education for the first year is \$113,678 which is 80% of the project's budget. Additional first year funding of \$29,433 will be provided through in-kind contributions from Rum River Education Cooperative.

For further information, contact Jennifer York at 625-6387.

ICI Technical Assistance Center Colloquium

Professor John Sullivan from the Department of Political Science, University of Minnesota will present a colloquium Thursday, April 18th from 12:15 to 1:15pm in 204 Pattee. His topic will be *The Use of Q-Methodology and R-Methodology in the Study of Patriotism*. He is also Past Editor of the SAGE Quantitative Applications in the Social Sciences Series.

Bring your lunch and join us for an exciting talk on the technical aspects of research in Education and Psychology! Refreshments will be available.

His talk is sponsored by the Department of Educational Psychology and the Institute on Community Integration.

PACER Benefit with Joan Rivers

PACER Center's 9th Annual Benefit will feature the comic talents of Joan Rivers on Saturday, May 4, at the Minneapolis Convention Center. A reception and silent auction at 6:30pm precedes the show at 8:30pm. Tickets are \$25-\$250. A patron party with Ms. Rivers will follow at 10:30 for persons buying tickets over \$50. For more information, contact PACER, 612/827-2966 (voice/TDD). Proceeds from the evening will benefit the programs of PACER.

Dates to Remember

•April 15: Staff/Graduate Assistant Quarterly Reports due to Mary Sinclair.

•April 18: Civil Service Staff Meeting, 8:30-9:00, 118 Pattee.

New Institute Publications

• **IMPACT: Feature Issue on Challenging Behavior.** This 20-page publication describes successful approaches to positive, community-based management of challenging behavior. Coedited by Joe Reichle and Paris DePaepe.

Cross Reference

Checkout Procedures for the Institute Library (room 5 Pattee):

1. Books are checked out for four weeks (if you need more time, please see library personnel).
2. On the card found in the back pocket of the book, print the date, your name, and your office number if you work in Pattee Hall, or your address and phone number if you work elsewhere.
3. Take one of the yellow slips of paper and stamp the date due.
4. Put the book card in the small gray file under the number corresponding to the date due.
5. Put the yellow slip in the book's pocket and return the book within four weeks.

Media Sources follow the same procedures as books.

To check books back in, simply place them in the book return box.

How to Learn From Failure

A University of Houston professor says that we learn more from mistakes than from successes. He notes that engineering students who made the most mistakes in the beginning ended up with the tallest building when challenged with the goal of building the tallest buildings with Popsicle™ sticks.

Dr. Jack Matson recommends that you learn from failure. His suggestions:

- **Fail fast.** Try several ideas simultaneously and shorten the trial-and-error period.
- **Fail intelligently.** Examine why you didn't succeed and learn from your mistakes.
- **Take small risks.** It's better to take many small risks than one big one.
- **Take a risk a day.** Whether it's something as small as phoning someone you didn't want to or something as big as questioning your boss, realize that failing isn't the end of the world.

Matson notes that, if you never risk failing, you're going to plateau at a level far below your potential.

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Odds and Ends

• Quarterly Report Treats

If you have completed your Staff or Graduate Assistant Quarterly Report by April 15th, please join other successful completers for treats in Room 6 Pattee, April 15th at noon. Your reports, if you have not already handed them to Mary Sinclair, will be collected at that time.

• Thanks from Laura Bloomberg

Laura Bloomberg would like to thank all those who provided moral and technical support in preparing the MUAP reapplication proposal. "WE WON'T DO IT AGAIN FOR ANOTHER THREE YEARS!"

• Friendly Reminder...MNASH

MNASH Conference registration forms are available from Ruth, Linda, Terri Vandercook, and Ron Erickson. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to celebrate and learn with your Minnesota colleagues!

• Coffee and Glenwood-Inglewood Water Fees Due

The coffee fee is \$8 per quarter for those who drink the coffee here at Pattee Hall (basement & 1st floor). The Glenwood-Inglewood water fee is \$10 per quarter for those who drink this water. Please pay Denise; checks can be made out to the University of Minnesota. Thanks!!

• The Computer Center Moves

The Institute Technical Assistance Center has moved downstairs to the newly remodeled room 110 Pattee.

Celebrations!

BIRTHDAYS

April 18 - Marijo McBride
April 18 - Cheryl Morgan
April 27 - Sheryl Evelo
April 29 - Teri Wallace