

March 15, 2000

Meet an ICI Partner . . .

Minnesota Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities

The Minnesota Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities is an organization whose mission is to work toward assuring that people with developmental disabilities receive the necessary support to achieve increased independence, productivity, and integration into the community. The Council's guiding principles for enabling people with developmental disabilities to achieve these goals include:

- A vision of community that empowers all citizens to offer each other personal support and assistance, making everyone's involvement in the community possible.
- A view of each person as a unique individual, having worth, no matter what the degree of disability.
- The idea that all communities depend on the capacity of people — on their fullness, on their possibility. The creation of the sense of community is built upon the capacity of individuals served and not on needs.

The Council is comprised of 27 Minnesota residents appointed by the Governor. At least one-half of the members must be people who have developmental disabilities or who are family members of persons with disabilities; others include representatives of state and local agencies, private nonprofit groups, and non-governmental agencies.

The Institute on Community Integration (ICI) and the Council have a long-standing and successful partnership. During the formation of ICI as a University Affiliated Program (UAP), the Council was an invaluable source of information and assistance. Over the past several years, the two have collaborated on a number of

training and technical assistance efforts. ICI's Teri Wallace serves on the Council's board of directors, and Colleen Wieck, Director of the Council, is a member of the ICI Consumer Advisory Council. ICI's David Johnson states, "We've enjoyed working with the Council on recent initiatives that focus on supporting Minnesotans with disabilities and their families. We are both committed to sharing new opportunities and ideas."

Since 1990, the Council has selected leadership as a priority area. Most of the Council's federal funds are allocated to developing statewide citizen leadership skills among youth with developmental disabilities, parents of youth with disabilities, and adults with disabilities. It has made a significant investment in the *Partners in Policymaking* program, which is requested by organizations worldwide.

Last month, the Minnesota Council for Quality announced that the Governor's Council was one of five recipients of the 1999 Minnesota Quality Award. The award acknowledges an organization's achievement in developing a blueprint for excellence that incorporates 11 core values, including leadership, continuous improvement, and long-range planning. Especially impressive is that the Council is the first government organization to receive the Achievement (Gold) Award. Colleen Wieck noted, "We at the Council are extremely pleased with our progress so far. However, this award represents only the beginning of our 10-year commitment to this quality initiative."

For more information about the Minnesota Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities, contact Colleen at 651-296-9964.

Staff Update

- **Staff Arrivals:** **Ann Mavis**, Project Coordinator, UAP.
- **Bob Prouty** attended the national conference of the Association of Public Developmental Disabilities Administrators on February 13–16 in San Antonio, Texas. He was a speaker, co-chaired a symposium, and received a distinguished service award for "accomplishments in the field of developmental disabilities."
- **Jeoung-Hak Lee**, a former Research Assistant for the Research and Training Center on Community Living, was recently appointed the Manager of the Seoul Olympic Promotion Foundation. He is responsible for organizing the 2002 World Cup Soccer Finals in Seoul, Korea, and has already met with the President of Korea and traveled to Germany, China, and Switzerland to meet with Olympic officials.
- **Christopher Watson** was in Sacramento the week of Feb. 21–27 completing the second half of the Training of Trainers Intensive in Infant Toddler Caregiving offered by WestEd and the California Department of Education. He has been asked to serve on the Executive Committee of the Infant Toddler Training Intensive (ITTI), which is Minnesota's branch of the WestEd program.

Dates to Remember . . .

- **Mar 20: ICI Council Meeting**, 10:00–10:30 a.m., 31 Peik Hall.
- **Mar 20: Grants/Funding Opportunities Group**, 10:30–noon, 31 Peik Hall.
- **Mar 24: Pizza Forum**, 12–1 p.m., 118 Pattee.

From the Front Office

News from ICI's Administrative Staff

- **Upcoming Holiday.** Friday, Mar. 31 is an official University holiday and offices will be closed.
- **Attention All Civil Service Staff.** There will be a meeting for all civil service (bargaining unit) staff members on Wednesday, Mar. 29 from 10:00–11:00 a.m. in 118 Pattee.
- **ICI Council Update.** At the February 21st meeting, topics discussed included 1) ICI grants committee, 2) Technology update/new ICI Website demonstration, 3) 1998-99 Annual Report, 4) clearing out Pattee Hall basement, 5) MN Transition Team update, and 6) upcoming Consumer Advisory Council meeting. The next meeting will be held on Mar. 20 at 10:00 a.m. in 31 Peik Hall.
- **New Certificate Course.** EdPA 5356, the core course for ICI's Certificate in Disability Policy and Services, is being offered during Summer Session I (June 19–30, 2000) from 8:00 a.m.–12:00 noon in G55 PeikG. For registration information, contact Amy Kurowski at 624-6300 or visit the University's One Stop at <http://www.onestop.umn.edu/Courses/schedule.html>. For information about the course or the certificate program, contact Dr. David R. Johnson at 624-1062 or visit the ICI Website at <http://ici.umn.edu>.
- **College Senate Update.** The Senate Consultative Committee is scheduled to meet on Mar. 21 from 11:30–1:00 p.m. The next full senate meeting will be held on Apr. 4 from 11:30–1:00 p.m. in 250 Wulling Hall.

Miscellaneous

- **Managing Behavior Workshops.** PACER Center, Inc. will sponsor two free workshops for parents and special education professionals featuring John Maag, Ph.D., on Thursday, Mar. 30 at Hope Presbyterian Church in Richfield, MN. The first workshop will be held from 12:30–4:30 p.m. and is entitled "Managing Resistance: Why They Say No." The second workshop, "Controlling Your Emotions and Behaviors," presents participants with ways to change their emotional reactions and behavioral responses, no matter how others may treat them. This session will be from 6:30–9:30 p.m. Advance registration is requested; contact PACER Center at 612-827-2966.
- **First Jobs for Youth with Disabilities.** PACER Center, Inc. will conduct a free workshop entitled "First Jobs: Accommodations in Home and Community" for parents of children with disabilities. It will be offered on Thursday, Mar. 30 from 6:30–9:30 p.m. at the Richfield Lutheran Church. Advance registration is requested; contact PACER Center at 612-827-2966.
- **PACER Annual Benefit.** PACER Center, Inc. will be holding its 18th Annual Benefit on Saturday, April 15, 2000. It will include a gourmet buffet dinner, both a live and silent auction, and music by Harry Belafonte. Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m., with the silent auction at 6:00 p.m. and performance at 8:00 p.m. For ticket prices and reservations, contact PACER Center at 612-827-2966.
- **Birthdays.** Chrisoula Nitsiou (3/15), Amy Kurowski (3/17), Sandy Thompson (3/19), Nohoon Kwak (3/21), Adina Witthaus (3/21), Jennifer Sommersness (3/23), Lori Sedlezsky (3/25), Angela Amado (3/26), Michael Sharpe (3/27), Stacy Callender (3/29), Gwen Willems (3/30), Lynn Walz (4/2), Kirstyn Rawlings (4/4), Terrence Smith (4/8), Melissa Kau (4/10), Sara Bolt (4/12), Jodi Hennessey (4/14), Sara Weisser (4/15).

Bits & Pieces

Information from the Institute's Web Development Team (110 Pattee, 6-8649) and Publications Office (109 Pattee, 4-4512)

Web Group Activities

- **Website Updates.** The Web Development Team is creating new searchable databases for Institute projects, staff, publications, and services for the redesigned Website. All ICI staff should have received a sheet asking for updates to their working title, address/phone/e-mail, area of focus, etc. Thanks to all of you who have turned in your information; if you have not yet turned it in, please do so as soon as possible. Forms can be given to Amy Kurowski in 102 Pattee.

From the Publications Office

- **Sesquicentennial Logo.** The University of Minnesota has developed a logo to commemorate the 150-year anniversary of the university's founding. The logo should appear on all publications and official University of Minnesota letterhead from June 2000 through May 2001. Use of the logo on Websites and in presentations is also encouraged. For additional information, contact Vicki Gaylord at 624-6347.
- **Conference Displays.** As the conference season is upon us again, remember that we have a range of materials to share at your presentations:
 - *Ensuring Access, Equity, and Quality for Students with Disabilities in School-to-Work Systems: A Guide to Federal Law and Policies (1999)*
 - *Lessons for Understanding: A Junior High and High School Curriculum on Perspective-Taking (1999)*
 - *Weaving Tapestries of Inclusion (1999)*
 - *Hey, We See It Differently!: Lessons on Team Dynamics (1999)*
 - *Reflective Practice: Creating Capacities for School Improvement (1998)*
 - *Lessons for Understanding: An Elementary School Curriculum on Perspective-Taking (1997)*