



September 15, 2010

ICI a Partner in Culture-Based Arts Integration Project

How can the curriculum in grades K-8 be made more meaningful for American Indian students and their non-Indian peers while boosting their academic performance? The Institute on Community Integration (ICI) has received a four-year subcontract from the Cloquet [Minnesota] Public Schools to be part of a partnership addressing that question with support from a \$1.2 million federal grant awarded to the Cloquet school district. The project is called *Culture-Based Arts Integration (CBAI): A New Space for Access, Equity, and Excellence in K-8 Education* and it will be implemented in nine elementary and middle school grades in St. Louis and Carlton counties in northern Minnesota.

CBAI expands on work done in ICI's Project Intersect, which ended June 30, 2010. Building on the work of its predecessor, CBAI will expand the integration of art and Ojibwe culture into the core curriculum of the targeted schools. Specifically, CBAI will:

- Partner with local American Indian artists to infuse culturally responsive American Indian visual and performing arts activities into K-8 arts education, language arts, math, and science education.
- Ensure that this American Indian arts-based curriculum is aligned with state and national benchmarks and content standards in visual and performing arts, language arts, math, and science.
- Research the effectiveness of the American Indian culture-based arts integration model in improving student academic performance in language arts, math, and science.
- Disseminate program results and outcomes for national and statewide replication.

The project will use a research design in which classes and schools will be randomly assigned to either develop culturally-responsive curricula, or maintain their regular curricula. There will be an equal number of classrooms and schools in each group and student achievement in math and reading will be measured based on the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment II; in addition, standardized and grade-specific pre- and post-test will be given annually. In CBAI's third and fourth years, preliminary data and research articles from the project will be posted on its Web site, making the information available to a national audience with an emphasis on practical applications and replication.

"By mapping where teaching about American Indian arts and cultures meaningfully intersects with interdisciplinary learning activities involving other core academic subjects, Project CBAI will develop a new and effective model for integrating Native arts, such as performing, design, craft, or fine arts, in culturally responsive, standards-based education," said Jean Ness, ICI's Principal Investigator on the project.

CBAI is directed by Jean and by Assistant Professor James W. Bequette of the University's Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Art Education Program, and is being carried out in partnership with Cloquet Public Schools, Carlton County Schools, and St. Louis County, all in northern Minnesota. Funding is from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Improvement and Innovation, Model Development and Dissemination Grants Program – Arts in Education. FFI about CBAI, contact Jean at 612-625-5322 or nessx008@umn.edu.

Staff Update

- **Staff Hires:** **Lynda Anderson**, Resident Fellow, Adult Services; **Bjorn Pederson**, **Xueqin "Shirley" Qian**, and **Allise Wuorio**, GRAs, Adult Services; **Joseph Demers** and **Matthew Schuelka**, GRAs, Transition; **Maureen Braam**, **Elizabeth Christian**, **Chantal Figueroa**, **Jenna Larson**, and **Lynn Price**, GRAs, NCEO; **Meredith Peterson**, Temporary/Hourly, Adult Services; and **Jenny Tranmer**, Temporary/Hourly, Transition. **Staff Departures:** **Adam Lekwa**, **Megan Mahowald**, **Ryan Myers**, and **Sarah Scullin**, GRAs, NCEO; **Megan DeGrande**, **Naomi Scott**, and **Anick Tolbize**, GRAs, Adult Services; **Nicole Brys** and **Kelly Meir**, GRAs, School Age; and **Meghan Mason**, Temporary/Hourly, School Age.
- **Jason Altman** and **Sheryl Lazarus** gave two presentations at the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) Project Directors' meeting in Washington DC in July on improving instruction and assessment of students who may be candidates for Alternate Assessments based on Modified Achievement Standards (AA-MAS). **Diane Halpin** and **Brian Abery** presented at the OSEP meeting on the consequential validity of Alternate Assessments based on Alternate Achievement Standards (AA-AAS) in a three-state consortium with representatives from Wisconsin, Michigan, and Pennsylvania. **Becky Lim** also presented a poster at the meeting on the role of contextual and evidential variables on student proficiency on the AA-AAS.

Dates to Remember...

- September 17: Pizza Forum, 12-1, 118 Pattee
- September 29: CAC Meeting, 3:30-5:30, UROC
- October 12: ICI Council, 10-12, 118 Pattee
- October 15: Pizza Forum, 12-1, 118 Pattee

From the Front Office

News from ICI's Administrative Staff

- **Attention Vacation Eligible Staff and Supervisors.** Information about training and implementation for Workgroup Calendar, the College's online tool, will be announced soon. This automated tool is designed for Professional and Administrative, Civil Service, and Bargaining Unit staff and their supervisors to request and track their vacation time. We are currently working with the College to set up fall training opportunities. Please continue to submit any time taken promptly and report it on appropriate absence card and/or academic paper forms until ICI moves to the automated system. As we transition to this system, it is very important that your records remain up-to-date. If you have not yet reported your summer vacation, please do so. Questions? Contact your supervisor or Beth at 6-8042 or Amy at 4-2380.
- **OSA Award Recipient.** Lucy Luu Evans (Administration) has received the 2010 Outstanding Service Award (OSA). She will be recognized at ICI's Annual Kickoff

Miscellaneous

- **Mount Olivet Conference.** Mount Olivet Rolling Acres will hold its 20th annual fall conference in Victoria, Minnesota, October 22. "Treating Anxiety Disorders in Adults" is the theme of this year's event. The presenter is psychologist and associate professor Reid Wilson, Ph.D., director of the Anxiety Disorders Treatment Center in Chapel Hill and Durham, North Carolina, author of *Don't Panic: Taking Control of Anxiety Attacks*, and co-author of *Stop Obsessing! How to Overcome Your Obsessions and Compulsions*. Continuing Education Credits are available for this all-day conference. FFI and to register, visit www.mtolivetrollingacres.org.
- **Arc of Minnesota State Conference.** The Arc of Minnesota will hold its 2010 state conference at Breezy Point Resort, October 8-9. The theme to this year's conference is "Mission Possible: Empowered to Work, Live, & Advocate in Our Communities?" The keynote presenter is Erin Reihle, Director of Project Search, an innovative program that helps educate

and train people with disabilities in real-world settings for competitive jobs in the community. Other presentations include tips for parents of children with autism, workshops on job skills and independent living for self-advocates, and preparation for the upcoming legislative session. October 8 is Disability Mentoring Day at the conference, a day when students and other jobseekers with disabilities learn about the world of work. For registration and hotel information, visit www.TheArcOfMinnesota.org. Questions? Call The Arc of Minnesota at 1-800-582-5256, ext. 109.

- **GRA Appointment Letters.** Academic Year Graduate Research Assistant (GRA) appointment letters were given to supervisors to hand out to GRAs. If you have not yet received your offer letter for the year, please see your supervisor. Please turn in your signed appointment letters to Amy Kurowski in 102A Pattee, as soon as possible.
- **Gopher Games and Parking Restrictions.** This fall, Gopher Home Football Saturdays are September 11, 18, and 25; October 2, 23, and 30; and November 27. Campus parking is restricted on these dates. Specifically, staff members are not allowed to park on campus in any Official Vehicle spot or at the maroon and gold meters at any time on these game days, not even with an Official Vehicle hang tag. Violators will be tagged and/or towed. FFI, visit Parking and Transportation's Web site at www1.umn.edu/pts/stadium.html.
- **Birthdays.** **Matt Bogenschutz** (9/20), **Sally Francis** (9/25), **Jennifer Hall-Lande** (9/26), **Kent Hamre** (9/27), **Aaron Geise** (10/7), **Kristi Liu** (10/7), **Elizabeth Christian** (10/7), **Manuel Barrera** (10/9), **Nicole Lindquist** (10/13), **Lucy Luu Evans** (10/16), and **Brian Abery** (10/17). 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:
 - *ICI Publications Catalog* (Fall 2010). Available from the Publications Office, and on the Web at http://ici.umn.edu/products/docs/ICI_Featured_Publications_Catalog.pdf by September 20.
 - *Impact: Feature Issue on Sexuality and People with Intellectual, Developmental and Other Disabilities* (September 2010). Available from the Publications Office and on the Web at <http://ici.umn.edu/products/impact/232> by September 20.
 - *Synthesis Report 77: Science Assessments for Students with Disabilities in School Year 2006-2007: What We Know About Participation, Performance, and Accommodations* (August 2010). Published by the Institute's National Center on Educational Outcomes and available on the Web at www.cehd.umn.edu/NCEO/OnlinePubs/Synthesis77/Synthesis77.pdf.
 - *Agency Factors and Structures Which Increase Successful Outcomes in Community Participation and Socially Valued Roles* (July 2010). Published by the Institute's Research and Training Center on Community Living (RTC) and available on the Web at <http://ici.umn.edu/products> by September 20.
 - *Connecting People to People* (February 2010). Published by RTC and available on the Web at <http://ici.umn.edu/products> by September 20.
- **Journal Article on General Outcome Measures.** ICI's Renáta Tichá, Teri Wallace (formerly of ICI), and Kathy Gustafson published the article, "Technical Characteristics of General Outcome Measures (GOMs) in Reading for Students With Significant Cognitive Disabilities" in the Fall 2010 issue of *Reading & Writing Quarterly*, 26:4, 333-360. The article was published online August 30 at <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10573569.2010.500264>.
- **FYI Deadline.** Items for the next FYI should be submitted to Tom (donag003@umn.edu) by Friday, October 8.