

## Impact of Proposed College Merger on ICI

On March 26, Provost Gene Allen indicated his plans to explore the possibility of a merger between the College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) and the College of Human Ecology (CHE). While this may seem like a far-removed and exceedingly academic event, it also may have implications – positive *or* negative – for the Institute on Community Integration (ICI). ICI Director Scott McConnell is confident that if the merger should happen, ICI will still be here as it is now. “ICI has much that is unique and is not duplicated elsewhere,” said McConnell. “Our greatest opportunity and protection is to keep doing what we do well. This is a time for quick changes, which means we need to remain in the ready position. And that is nothing new to ICI.”

Although ICI is an interdisciplinary center, with ties to colleges across the Twin Cities campus, it is housed administratively in CEHD. The reasons for this arrangement are historical, pragmatic, and programmatic. Dean Robert Bruininks and many of the first faculty and staff at ICI held appointments in Educational Psychology or Educational Policy and Administration in the College. ICI has benefitted from the close support and supervision that the deans of this college have provided. In addition, many of ICI’s early projects, and much of its current work, rests on strong ties with CEHD faculty and programs.

ICI has ties to CHE, as well. Faculty from two programs in CHE – Social Work and Family Social Science – have been involved with programs and projects within ICI, and the academic missions of these units complement nicely ICI’s focus as a University Affiliated Program on developmental disabilities. The two remaining departments – Design, Apparel and Housing, and Nutrition and Food Science – have individual faculty members who are doing work that closely parallels some of ICI’s efforts, such as designing housing for people with disabilities. A possible merger with CHE could provide additional opportunities for ICI to further link disability issues with CHE’s programs.

The specific process for this merger, exploring its potential benefits and problems, is still being arranged. In the interim, Provost Allen and Dean Bruininks have both made commitments to keep communication open and frequent. Staff at ICI are encouraged to be a part of this process. For more information, attend the special all-college forum on April 19, 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m., 28 Peik Hall. Dean Bruininks will give an update and provide time for questions, concerns, and input. Also, see the web site devoted to this proposed merger, <http://www.coled.umn.edu/mis/CHE/CHEhome.html/>. Once you access the home page, press the HOT button for the latest updates.

Also, additional information will be sent to GroupWise electronic-mail accounts. Dean Bruininks welcomes all comments and suggestions on the proposed merger.

## Staff Update

- **Staff Arrival:** Cindy Rudolph is now Research Assistant for Charlie Lakin’s Behavioral Support Crisis Response Program.
- **Terri Vandercook** has accepted a tenure track faculty position at St. Thomas University. Terri will begin teaching at St. Thomas this fall, and will also continue her work here at ICI through 1997.
- This year’s Outstanding Service Awards for civil service staff are being presented to **Claudia Brummel** and **Kurtis Scaletta**.
- Last month **Jean Ness** gave presentations to the University of Minnesota-Duluth Kindergarten Elementary Education Alumni Conference and at Groves Academy, St. Louis Park.
- This coming June, **John Sauer** and **Georgiana Ariola** will be married.
- **Teri Wallace, David R. Johnson,** and **Scott McConnell** received a \$100,000 grant from the Minnesota Department of Education for the Minnesota Transition Technical Assistance Project.
- **Charlie Lakin** and **Robert Bruininks** received a \$10,000 grant from the Minnesota Department of Human Services for Partnership to Improve Quality Assurance in Human Services.

## Dates to Remember . . .

- **April 19:** All-College Forum, 11:30 a.m., 28 Peik Hall.
- **May 6:** ICI Council Meeting, 9:30 a.m., 118 Pattee.

## From the Front Office

News from ICI's Administrative Staff

- **Budget Victory!** At long last the budget battle is over and WE WON! On March 28, the House agreed to fund the UAPs, DD Councils and Projects of National Significance (PNS) at the Senate level of 92% of FY 1995 funding. This funding will be valid for all of FY 1996. While this figure still reflects an 8% cut to funding, it remains a victory compared to the original House proposal to cut the UAPs by 47% and to completely eliminate PNS.

## Miscellaneous

- **Introduction to the World Wide Web.** On April 22, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m., Room 6, a presentation will be given to ICI staff on Internet and World Wide Web basics. The presentation will be broken down into four 1/2-hour sessions: (1) A basic introduction, (2) Browsing the web with "Netscape" and other browsers, (3) A tour of the useful and the useless on the Web, and (4) How to locate information using search engines. Staff is welcome to come to any section of the presentation, or the whole thing. Call Kurtis (624-1349) or Megan (626-8649) for more information or to RSVP.
- **Noon Wellness Activities.** "Color with Your Colleagues" on Friday, April 19, 12:30–1:30, Room 118 Pattee. Everyone is invited to decorate the halls of Pattee Hall. Supplies provided, but bring your imagination. Then on Monday, April 29, 12–1:00 p.m., 118 Pattee, attend "Rabbits' Delight," a mixed salad luncheon. Bring a salad item to share; lettuce, dressing, and bread provided.
- **Workshop on Handling Change in the Workplace.** Mardi Pearson, a psychologist with the University Employee Assistance Program, will present a two-hour workshop on effective strategies for dealing with change in the workplace. The workshop will be held Wednesday, May 8 from 1:30–3:30 p.m. The location will be determined by the number of persons who register. For more information, contact John Sauer at 626-0535.
- **Workshop on Habits to Enhance Your Effectiveness in All Areas of Life.** Terri Vandercook will present an overview of Dr. Stephen Covey's *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*. This 2-1/2 hour workshop will be held on Wednesday, May 15 from 9:00–11:30 a.m. Location to be determined. Registrations will be distributed. For information, call John Sauer at 626-0535.
- **Paraprofessional Conference.** The fourth annual statewide conference for paraprofessionals in education, rehabilitation, and training will take place May 10 and 11 at Hutchinson Technical College in Hutchinson, MN. For further information, call Carrie Gustafson at 626-7335.
- **Media Distribution.** The University of Minnesota Media Distribution (UMMD) is seeking products that are media focused for distribution. The mission of UMMD is to assist University of Minnesota faculty and staff in disseminating the creative results of their scholarly activities. UMMD markets videotapes, software, and multimedia (CD-ROM) presentations nationwide. For further information, call 624-0648.
- **Birthdays.** Karen Anderson (5/1); Marijo McBride (4/18); Scott McConnell (4/21); Michael Moore (5/6); Tony Paulsen (4/18); Rebecca Richards (4/27); John Smith (4/19); Mike Vanderwood (4/22); Teri Wallace (4/29).

## Bits and Pieces

Information from the Institute's Research and Technology Consulting Group (RTCG, 110 Pattee, 4-7337) and the Publications Office (109 Pattee, 4-4512).

- **Virus Update**
- **Virus Alert.** It seems as though we have been able to thwart the attack of the Word Macro virus here at ICI. For the past two weeks there have been no new reports of any outbreaks. If at any time you suspect that your computer may have a virus, contact Jon Goldman in RTCG at 626-1515.
- **Reprints and Law, New Publications**
- **Reprints and the Law.** If you are producing a publication in which there is material, such as a handout or newsletter article, that you have reprinted from a copyrighted, non-ICI publication, it is important to know the following:
  1. You must get permission to reprint from the original publisher of the material.
  2. Once that material is reprinted within an ICI publication, ICI does not have the right to give anyone else permission to reprint a piece that we have reprinted. That permission must come from the original publisher, UNLESS you've obtained written permission that says otherwise. If developing materials, see the Publications Office for a permission to reprint form that should eliminate problems.
- **New Publications.** Off the press this month are the *ABC Dropout Prevention & Intervention Series*, *Keeping Kids in School: Using Check & Connect for Dropout Prevention*, *IMPACT: Feature Issue on Inclusion and School Restructuring*, and the *Institute on Community Integration Annual Report: 1994-95*.