



April 16, 2014

## Disability Certificate Marks 26th Year... And Some Changes

In 1988, the Institute on Community Integration (ICI) began collaborating with the University's Department of Educational Psychology to launch an innovative program offering students and community members specialized training in the field of intellectual and related developmental disabilities. Originally named the Interdisciplinary Studies in Developmental Disabilities Certificate Program, today it is called the Certificate in Disability Policy and Services, and through a collaboration of ICI and the Department of Organizational Leadership, Policy and Development it continues to enhance participants' abilities to serve people with disabilities in various fields.

"The certificate program helps participants understand the complex network of policies and services that people with disabilities and their families navigate on a daily basis," says certificate program coordinator Beth Fondell. "It has proven to be particularly beneficial to community advocates and future practitioners engaged in supporting children and adults with disabilities to lead healthy and meaningful lives."

The 12-credit program examines the spectrum of education, health, policy, and social services impacting individuals with disabilities and their families, and surveys the public and private networks of disability services from an interdisciplinary perspective. While the program addresses the needs of people with all types of disabilities, it emphasizes intellectual and developmental disabilities across the lifespan most closely. Certificate topics include:

- Past and present inclusion of people with disabilities in their communities.
- Significant legislation and laws impacting services and supports.
- Exploration of school, residential, employment, and community programs.
- Perspectives and roles of professional disciplines in providing services and collaboration.
- Current trends and issues in policies and service provision.

Through a three-credit interdisciplinary core course, six credits of specialized course work, and an individualized learning experience, with interdisciplinary reflections, participants learn from the expertise of persons with disabilities and their family members, professionals currently working in the field, and faculty from academic programs across the University of Minnesota.

Effective July 2014, the program, which was previously open to undergraduate and graduate students, and community members, will now require that all applicants already have a bachelor's degree for admission to the program. Also, the admissions process has been moved from the College of Education and Human Development to the Graduate Admissions office.

How does the certificate benefit participants? "The disability policy class is fantastic!" says ICI staffer Libby Hallas-Muchow, who took the core course, Disability Policy and Services in 2013. "The coursework is meaningful and enhanced what I learned from the lectures and guest speakers. I apply what I learned in this class to my work every day. I would recommend this class to anyone!" Shelley Kreibich agreed: "As a student and GRA at ICI who is new to the world of disability policy, I found the certificate program very helpful in giving me a glimpse into many areas of disability policy as well as how they interact with one another."

The core course, Disability Policy and Services (OLPD 5356), will be offered this June in a two-week, half-day session (for details see <http://onestop2.umn.edu/courseinfo>). FFI on the certificate program visit <http://ici.umn.edu/welcome/certificate.html> or contact Beth at [fond0030@umn.edu](mailto:fond0030@umn.edu) or 612-624-6830.

## Staff Update

- **Staff Hires:** **James Flowers**, GRA, Adult Services. **Staff Departures:** None.
- The board of Minnesota APSE (Association of People Supporting Employment-First) recently elected **Kelly Nye-Lengerman** as Board Chair and **Jeffrey Nurick** as Board Secretary. Kelly's term is two years (May 2014-May 2016) and Jeffrey's is one year (May 2014-2015).
- **Anne Roehl** presented on person-centered thinking at The Arc United conference at Breezy Point, March 28-29, and at the Minnesota Social Service Association conference in Minneapolis, March 18-21. On April 5, she presented on person-centered planning at the Housing Conference, which was hosted jointly by The Arc Greater Twin Cities and Hennepin County.
- **Sheryl Lazarus** presented at two conferences in Philadelphia in early April: The American Educational Research Association Annual Conference with **Yi-Chen Wu**, **Kristi Liu**, and **Martha Thurlow** on "The Characteristics of Non-proficient Special Education and Non-special Education Students on Large-scale Assessments;" and the Council for Exceptional Children Annual Convention with **Aleksis Kincaid** on "Providing Access: Selecting and Implementing Frequently Used Accommodations on Statewide Assessments."

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## Dates to Remember...

- April 17: ICI Pizza Forum, 12-1, 118 Pattee Hall
- April 21: CEHD Spring Assembly and Recognition Event, 2-4, TCF Stadium-DQ Room
- May 13: ICI Council Meeting, 10:30-12, 118 Pattee Hall
- May 15: ICI Pizza Forum, 12-1, 118 Pattee Hall

## From the Front Office

News from ICI's Administrative Staff

- **Performance Reviews.** Information regarding the annual performance review process for Undergraduate and Graduate Students and hourly employees was sent in early April. Performance review materials for Civil Service and Labor Represented staff will be e-mailed by late April. The deadline for completing reviews is June 2. Questions? Contact Beth Nelson at [nelso106@umn.edu](mailto:nelso106@umn.edu).
- **Personal Holiday Reminder.** Employees have until June 30, 2014 to use their Personal Holiday for the 2013-14 year. To record your Personal Holiday in Workgroup Calendar, select "Personal Holiday." Can't remember if you used it already? Visit the Self-Service Web site at <http://hrss.umn.edu> and see the link and more information under "Personal Holiday" on the right side of the screen. Questions? Contact Amy at [kuro0008@umn.edu](mailto:kuro0008@umn.edu).
- **GRA Summer Appointments.** Information about Graduate Research Assistant (GRA) summer appointments was e-mailed to supervisors on April 10. This

information is due no later than April 28. Note that Spring Semester GRA appointments end May 25. Questions? Contact Amy Kurowski at [kuro0008@umn.edu](mailto:kuro0008@umn.edu).

- **GRAs, Summer, and Classes.** GRAs received information via e-mail on April 14 regarding Summer Term and whether they are taking classes. Final information is due April 28. Questions? Contact Amy at [kuro0008@umn.edu](mailto:kuro0008@umn.edu).
- **ICI Staff to be Recognized.** The CEHD Spring Assembly and Recognition Event will be held in the TCF Stadium – DQ Room on April 21, from 2-4 p.m. ICI employees being recognized for their years of University Staff Service are: **Beth Fondell, Mike Molenaar, Kelly Nye-Lengermen, and Yi-Chen Wu** (5 years); **Rachel Halvorson and Joe Timmons** (10 years); **Rachel Quenemoen and Mike Sharpe** (15 years); **Megan Dushin, Kristi Liu, Michael Moore, and Pam Stenhjem** (20 years); **Vicki Gaylord** (25 years); and **Beth Nelson** (30 years).

## Miscellaneous

- **NCEO in College- and Career-Ready Standards Webinar.** ICI's National Center on Educational Outcomes (NCEO) is one of three federally-funded technical assistance centers presenting in a Webinar hosted by the US Department of Education on April 24, 2-3 CDT. The topic is resources from the centers that will support state education agencies in implementing college- and career-ready standards for all students, as well as related educator evaluation and support systems. FFI see <http://www.gtlcenter.org/products-resources/technical-assistance-webinar>.
- **MN LEND Forum.** ICI's Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (MN LEND) program is hosting a forum May 8 at the Continuing Education and Conference Center on the St. Paul campus. The forum will consist of two presentations on "big data," data analytics, and measurement innovations by Steve F. Warren, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Studies

and director of the Life Span Institute at the University of Kansas, Lawrence. His presentations are "And Then Along Came LENA: Game Changers in Measurement and Design," 9-11 a.m.; and "Making Meaningful Change in the Age of Moneyball," 2-4 p.m. FFI, visit [www.lend.umn.edu](http://www.lend.umn.edu).

- **Webinar on Health and Disability.** ICI's Lynda Anderson will present on "Health-Meet: Promoting Health for People with Intellectual Disabilities," an hour-long Webinar hosted by The Arc on Wednesday, April 23, beginning at 1 p.m. CDT. To receive a call back for the Webinar, dial +1-855-749-4750 toll free and enter the access code 640 635 647 or e-mail Kerry Mauger at [mauger@thearc.org](mailto:mauger@thearc.org). No password is required.
- **Birthdays.** **Chris Opsal** (4/21), **Michael Moore** (5/6), **Sandy Pettingell** (5/8), and **Amanda Ryan** (5/15). Did we miss your birthday? Let us know! Call 4-2380 or e-mail [kuro0008@umn.edu](mailto:kuro0008@umn.edu).

## Bits & Pieces

New Publications and Web Resources

- **New Publications.** The following new ICI publications are available:
  - *ICI Publications Catalog* (Spring/Summer 2014). Available from the Publications Office after April 18.
  - *ICI Web Site Postcard*. Available from the Publications Office.
- **ICI's Research Day Presentations.** Three of the poster presentations by ICI staff at the College of Education and Human Development's recent Research Day are now available on the Web at <http://www.cehd.umn.edu/research/news/rd.html>. They are:
  - "Poverty in America: The Intersection of Disability and Housing." (Authors: Derek Nord, Kelly Nye-Lengerman, and Kristin Hamre)
  - "MMM! A Middle-School Mentoring Model to Improve School Outcomes for Disengaged 6th Grade Students." (Authors: Angie Pohl and Ann Mavis)
  - "Partnerships in Wellness: A Health Education Curriculum for Adults with Intellectual Disabilities." (Author: James Mahoehney)
- **New Research Participation Feature on RTC Web Site.** The Institute's Research and Training Center on Community Living (RTC) has launched a new feature on its Web site, "Participate in Research at the RTC." Research and community are central to the center's mission and the new Web feature shares information about opportunities for people with disabilities, their families, disability-related professionals, and others to participate in research at the RTC. The first project listed is the RTC's Partnership in Wellness. Future research projects will be added as the need for participants arises. FFI about the new research feature, visit <http://rtc.umn.edu/rtc/researchparticipation.php>.
- **FYI Deadline.** Items for the next FYI should be submitted to Tom ([donag003@umn.edu](mailto:donag003@umn.edu)) by May 9.