

August 15, 2001

What I Did On My Summer Vacation

Fake body parts, near-death experiences, paralyzing fear...some ICI staff had summer experiences worthy of a sci-fi novel. For others, these past several months have brought a new home, a personal accomplishment, or a well-deserved vacation. Read on to find out what was going on in your colleagues' lives this summer.

Sammy the Samoyed and I started visiting the VA every other Saturday. He's very popular there! (Lynda Anderson)

I sent a book to press: a collection of speeches by the winners of the annual award for excellence in children's literature given by the Friends of the U of M Kerlan Collection of Children's Literature. (Ruth Berman)

I spent three weeks immersed in the 4th and 5th centuries as I studied the life of Augustine and the foundations of the Catholic tradition at United Theological Seminary. (Vicki Gaylord)

In a week, I'm going to Montana for 11 days to visit friends. (Maureen Hawes)

I spent three weeks in Kosovo, training direct care staff and helping to open a home for children with severe disabilities who had been living in an institution. (Mary Hayden)

I caught a 28" Northern on Lower Eau Claire Lake in Wisconsin. (Amy Hewitt)

I took my 10-year-old cousin to Valleyfair. We rode the Wild Thing first, which scared her so much that we didn't ride anything else! (Beth Knoblauch)

I went on my first trip with Wilderness Inquiry — five days of canoeing and camping in the Boundary Waters. I even ate a

(roasted) grub worm! (Amy Kurowski)

I moved back to Minnesota from 13 years in Connecticut to work on a Ph.D. in Social Work. (Traci Laliberte)

I moved 2 blocks; it took 4 men 6 hours. (Sherri Larson)

I survived my fourth, and hopefully final, German class, and even managed not to pull my hair out. (Melissa Malikowski)

I went to the Boundary Waters/Ely for a week in early June with my extended family, during the worst outbreak of caterpillars in 12 years. (Marijo McBride)

I got a new right hip on July 2 and am now back to work, pain-free! (Barb Polister)

I went camping and canoeing in Wisconsin with some friends. (Jason Savage)

I moved to a bigger house to give my baby more room to crawl. (Jerry Smith)

I volunteered on a Wilderness Inquiry trip to Voyageurs National Park. I had been informed that I would be camping with individuals who had "severe cognitive disabilities." I quickly realized that this label was absolute nonsense and that the people I was with were better able to take care of and educate me than anyone I know. (Angie Swanson)

I went to New Orleans for the first time for the Spina Bifida Association's national conference. While there, I accidentally ate crawfish (I'm deathly allergic!) but survived. (Julia Washenberger)

My Bedlington terrier, Cooper (aka Xerxes Tuxedo Junction), competed in two dog shows, and lost both to his brother. (Christopher Watson)

Staff Update

- **Staff Arrivals.** **Roger Stancliffe**, Research Associate, Adult Services; **Traci Laliberte**, Community Program Associate, Adult Services; **Kristin Moffitt**, GRA, MN Paraprofessional Training Project; **Jason Savage**, Student Secretary, Adult Services; **Amy Dupont**, Student Secretary, Adult Services. **Staff Departures.** **Sondra Koster**, GRA, MN Paraprofessional Training Project; **Melissa Steenhard**, Student Secretary, Adult Services; **Michelle Suedbeck**, Student Secretary, Early Childhood; **Ethan Gannaway**, Student Secretary, CEED; **Regan Cunningham**, Student Secretary, Adult Services; **Jennifer Sandlin**, Principal Secretary, Adult Services; **Angie Swanson**, GRA, MN Paraprofessional Training Project; **Hatti Hembre**, Student Secretary, Administration.
- **Teri Wallace** has been elected to serve a three-year term as the College's representative to the University-wide Academic Staff Advisory Committee. Teri also participated in an OSEP-funded Paraeducator Issues Forum in Washington during June; the forum discussed national issues and recommended strategies for addressing them.
- **Christopher Watson** has been appointed to the advisory board of the new national Center for Early Intervention Professionals in Hearing Impairment based at UNC Greensboro.

Dates to Remember . . .

- **August 20: ICI Council**, 10-11:30 a.m., 118 Pattee.
- **August 24: Pizza Forum**, 12-1 p.m., 118 Pattee. **ICI Council Research Associate Discussion**, 1-2 p.m., 118 Pattee.

From the Front Office

News from ICI's Administrative Staff

- **Attention P&A Staff.** Memos regarding AAUAP Online Reporting were disseminated earlier this month. The deadline for submitting this information is September 30, 2001. Contact Jon Goldman at 6-1515 for assistance.
- **GRA Notice.** Information for fall GRA appointments, both continuing and new hires, are due no later than Monday, August 20. FFI contact Beth: 6-8042, nelso106@umn.edu.
- **Student Job Openings.** Applications are being sought for two student positions in ICI: Student Secretary in Admin-

istration, and Undergraduate Research Assistant with NCSET. FFI see the first floor foyer bulletin board job postings.

- **ICI's Consumer/Community Advisory Council.** The Council will meet on September 20 from 4:30-7:30 p.m. at the Radisson Metrodome, focusing on graduation standards and youth with disabilities, teachers, and administrators. FFI call Julia at 4-2008 or email her at washe004@tc.umn.edu.
- **Fall Kickoff in the Works.** Planning is underway for the annual ICI Fall Kickoff, which will take place November 14.

Miscellaneous

- **Metro Self-Advocacy Conference.** "Empowerment and Fun in 2001," the 2001 Metro Self-Advocacy Conference, will be held Friday, Sept. 14 and Saturday, Sept. 15 in Minneapolis. FFI contact Mark Olson at (952)920-0855. Registration is due by September 1.
- **New Guide on Public Speaking for Self-Advocates.** ICI's Mary Hayden, in collaboration with James Meadours and AAMR, has developed a new publication: "So You Want to be a Public Speaker: A Guide for Self-Advocates." It is available for free from the Department of Mental Health, 1706 E. Elm St., P.O. Box 687, Jefferson City, MO 65102, phone (573)751-4054.
- **Diversity Resources on the Web.** The following Web sites are valuable resources on diversity.
 - Honoring Diversity in the Workplace: <http://www.careerexposure.com/diversity.html>
 - Diversity Training University International: <http://www.diversityintl.com>
 - DiversityInc.com: <http://www.diversityinc.com>(Reprinted from the PACER Center's *Pacesetter* newsletter, Summer 2001.)

- **Free IDEA '97 Guide Available.** *Implementing the Mediation Requirements of IDEA '97*, a free guide developed by the Consortium for Appropriate Dispute Resolution in Special Education (CADRE), is now available. CADRE provides nationwide technical assistance on dispute resolution to state agencies, parent centers, and disability organizations. The guide primarily assists states in implementing the mediation requirements in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA '97). Nevertheless, sections explaining mediation and the requirements of IDEA may be of interest to parents of children with disabilities who are in dispute with schools or other agencies. The 21-page guide is available on the Web in pdf format at <http://www.directionservice.org/cadre/idea/mediationguide.pdf>. (Reprinted from the PACER Center's *Pacesetter* newsletter, Summer 2001.)
- **Birthdays.** Martha Thurlow (8/19), Ann Eggebeen (8/24), Jeff Priest (8/24), Judy Bartlett (8/30), Ben Silbergliitt (8/31), Robert Fluto (9/2), Beth Knoblauch (9/4), Dennis Olson (9/5), Gavin Lemieux (9/7), Peter Aleshire (9/7), Cliff Poetz (9/12), Jerry Smith (9/14).

Bits & Pieces

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

From the Publications Office

- **State Fair.** ICI will be at the State Fair again this year. On August 28 and 29, we'll be featured in the College of Education and Human Development booth located in the Crossroads Building. Stop by to take our computer-based quizzes on disability topics and chat with ICI fair volunteers!
- **New Publications.**
 - The Peer Empowerment Program (PEP), a toolkit for direct support staff. It has three parts: *Program Coordinator Guide - Understanding, Planning, and Launching the Peer Empowerment Program*; *Facilitator Guide - The PEP Curriculum*; and *Learner Guide*.
 - The National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals Code of Ethics materials, including wallet card, poster, and brochure.
- **Preview of Upcoming Impacts.** Upcoming *Impact* feature issue topics this year include Volunteerism by Persons with Developmental Disabilities (Fall 2001), Faith Communities and People with Developmental Disabilities (Winter 2001/02), and SSI and Transition-Age Youth with Disabilities (Spring 2002).
- **Publications Available on the Web.** The latest issues of *MR/DD Data Brief* (<http://rtc.umn.edu/nhis/Databrief4/index.html>) and *Policy Research Brief* (<http://ici.umn.edu/products/prb/122/default.html>) are now available on the ICI Web site. Several other recent issues of these newsletters are also available on the Web, as are many other publications. Have a look!
- **FYI Deadline.** Items for the next *FYI* should be submitted to Chris in 109 Pattee or e-mailed to opsal001@tc.umn.edu by Wednesday, September 12.