CPACS Happenings (December 1980 Newsletter)

College of Public Affairs and Community Service, University of Nebraska at Omaha

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Variety Spices Life Of Visiting Professor

Maxine Mimms, who is a visiting assistant professor with the Goodrich Program this year, wears a hand-wrought silver ring on her left hand.

That's not so unusual, but what is unusual is what this handsome piece of jewelry symbolizes.

Made in the shape of a drawn bow, the ring is indicative of one of her many hobbies—archery, including bowhunting and tournament shooting.

Bowhunting is not her only unusual hobby. She has had a private pilot's license since 1976 and especially loves to fly at night.

"It's very relaxing," she says.

Going to horse races and listening to good jazz are two other interests. Since coming to Omaha, she has found opportunities to hear lots of good music. Jean Rogers, a pianist, is one she has particularly enjoyed.

"She's like Ella," Maxine says.

When she isn't teaching or consulting or pursuing a hobby, Maxine likes to travel to the Virgin Islands or other places in the Caribbean.

Teacher, Consultant

When she's teaching, she's tutoring and advising Goodrich students, instructing the Goodrich freshmen in autobiographical consciousness, or lecturing to her class in Urban Studies 201.

Next semester she will conduct classes in perspectives on American culture and continue advising and tutoring.

When she's consulting, Maxine provides input on regional educational concerns to the Department of Education of HEW. In November she was in Denver in this capacity and this month went to New York. She's done lots of other consulting work, too, for many educational and governmental units.

Some years ago she was a consultant to the Goodrich Program at UNO when it was just getting started. That was when she met Hubert Locke, the first CPACS dean who is now vice-provost for academic affairs at Washington State University in Seattle, and they have been friends ever since.

This eventually led to her being on campus again this year, on leave from her position as coordinator and director of the Learning Services Center at Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington.

The Learning Services Center is a core program to facilitate development of the faculty and steer them in new ways of teaching. Part of Maxine's work there has involved helping women who are re-entering the labor market and advising other adult students.

A New Direction

During her year here, Maxine hopes to explore new ways to teach and to find a new direction to her career. She has been experimenting with contracting for grades no less than B—something quite different from the Evergreen system where a narrative evaluation is used. Evergreen has no tenure or professorial ranking, either.

"I didn't know I could have so much fun in a traditional institution," she effervesces.

She is enjoying the lectures and her relationships with students at UNO. And she loves Omaha and its hospitality, terming it a small town in transition.

"I like being a part of its growing pains," she says.

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Members of the board of directors of the Colored Old Folks Home Association present a donation of $21,000 to the Gerontology Program for the establishment of a student scholarship fund. Shown from left to right are Mary Jane Duncan, Ethel Collier, Dr. John Kerrigan, Thelma Hancock, Susie Jones, and Dr. James Thorson, director of the Gerontology Program.

$21,000 Gift Establishes Gerontology Scholarship

The Martha T. Smith Scholarship Fund for students in the CPACS Gerontology Program was established this fall with a donation of $21,000 from a group with the unique name of the Colored Old Folks Home Association of Omaha. The funds have been placed on deposit with the University of Nebraska Foundation, and income from the fund will go for student scholarships in Gerontology.

The association is a Nebraska corporation that is being legally dissolved. It sponsored the Martha T. Smith Home for the Aged, which closed its doors several years ago. The remaining assets, about $20,000, were placed in a certificate of deposit with a local bank.

In the words of Mrs. Thelma Hancock, secretary of the board of directors, "I told the other board members that we'd better give that money away before we all died, and that if they all died off before me, I was going to keep it."

The group decided that they wanted to keep the money in Omaha and chose the Gerontology Program because the funds would go to assist people who were going to work with the aged.

In 1890, the Negro Women's Christian Association was formed by a number of women in the community who were concerned with the care of the aged. By 1913 they were able to acquire a building at 3029 Pinkney Street which became their first residence for the aged. Eight years later the home was moved to 933 North 25th Street.

In 1952, the name was changed from Colored Old Folks Home to the Martha T. Smith Home for the Aged, in honor of the woman who was the founder of the organization. The gift to the University was made possible by the sale of the property to Donovan Bros. furnace company when the home closed.

Members of the board said that the reason that they had decided to dispose of the remaining assets of the association in this way was to create a perpetual memorial to Martha T. Smith. They stipulated that only the income from the fund could be used, and that scholarships be given on the basis of need without regard to the race or sex of the student.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

Therese Voboril (a CJ student in Lincoln) has been awarded a scholarship from the Nebraska Juvenile Justice Association.

MAXINE MIMMS
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Misses the Mountains

The only things she misses are her four children and the mountains. One of her children is a lawyer, one is in dental school, and the two others are in college.

Maxine was born in Newport News, Virginia, and received her bachelor's degree in sociology and education from Virginia Union University in Richmond. When she went to Wayne State College in Detroit to get her master's, she met her husband, an oceanographer, and soon found herself on the opposite coast when he was recruited by Boeing in Seattle. Later she obtained her doctorate from the Union Graduate School in San Francisco.

Her principal professional interests are in weekend college concepts and seminars, taking higher education to the shopping malls, and looking for new student populations.

She's also done much work with helping minority businesses find financing.

A Busy Lady

Maxine has conducted research studies on employment standards and occupational safety for women and done work analysis for the inclusion of women in the work force for business, government, educational institutions, and industry.

She's worked for the Department of Labor in Washington developing new training models for executive management, among other projects.

She's been an elementary and secondary teacher and principal, worked on urban renewal and new careers projects, and served as special assistant to the director of the Women's Bureau in the Department of Labor.

Here she supervised employees in both the national and in five regional offices, developed plans for educational, vocational, and residential programs for girls and women, and evaluated college programs for women.

What hasn't she done?

She hasn't shot an antelope with her bow, and that's a trophy she intends to add while in Nebraska.

She hasn't learned to play bridge yet, either, but she's working on it. And she plans to learn to play racquetball.

"Only I'm afraid of the ball," she admits.

Judging from what she's achieved in the past, she'll conquer that obstacle and accomplish all three.
Staff Activity

CASSIA SPOHN
Goodrich Program
Dr. Spohn has had three articles accepted for publication. One of these, "Women as Policy Makers: The Case of Trial Judges," was written with John Gruhl and Susan Welch of UN-L and will appear in the American Journal of Political Science. Another, also written with John Gruhl, is "The Supreme Court's Post-Miranda Rulings: Impact on Local Prosecutors." It will appear in Law and Policy Quarterly. The third, to be published in the Midwest Review of Public Administration, is entitled "The Representativeness of National Advisory Board: The Case of HEW."

GINGER BURCH
CAUR
Dr. Burch received a grant for $25,000 from the Health Planning Council of the Midlands to do a health needs assessment for North and South Omaha. She will be preparing the membership directory of the organizational/occupational section of the American Sociological Association.

PETER SUZUKI
Urban Studies
Two articles by Dr. Suzuki have been accepted for publication. They are "Values and a Federal Bureaucracy: Anthropologists in a Wartime Agency," to be published in Dialectical Anthropology, and "Migration and Mental Health: Turks in Germany," which will appear in American Journal of Psychotherapy.

SHIRLEY WASKEL
Gerontology
Dr. Waskel participated in a panel presentation, "Model and Theory Building—The Older Adult Learner" at the Commission of Professors of Adult Education Meeting in St. Louis in November. She attended the Second National Conference on the Adult Life Cycle: From Theory to Practice in Overland Park, Kansas in November. This workshop was sponsored by the Adult Life Resource Center of the University of Kansas.

SAM WALKER
Criminal Justice
The Oxford University Press has nominated a book by Dr. Walker to the Pulitzer Prize Awards Committee. Popular Justice: A History of American Criminal Justice will be under consideration in two categories, history and general non-fiction.

INEKE MARSHALL
Criminal Justice
Dr. Marshall and Charles W. Thomas of the University of Florida were co-authors of a paper, "Hidden Determinants of Judicial Dispositions," presented at the American Society of Criminology's annual meeting in San Francisco.

ANN COYNE
MARY ADAMS
Social Work
Ms. Coyne and Ms. Adams recently attended the North American Council on Adoptable Children Conference in Houston. Ms. Coyne gave a paper at the meeting, "How Foster Parents and Adoptive Parents Can Work Together for Children."

LEO MISSINNE
Gerontology
Leo Missinne conducted workshops on aging in religious communities in San Antonio and in Washington in October. He lectured on psychology of a patient for staff members of the Methodist Hospital in November, and also in November he lectured on "Emotional Problems of the Aging in Des Moines, Iowa. This month he spoke on psychology of the older people in Scottsbluff.

CAROLE M. DAVIS
CAUR
Ms. Davis and Dorothy J. Graham of the Career Development Center conducted two workshops this month, one in Grand Island and one in North Platte, to train community college counselors regarding objectives and materials for the project, "Mid-Life Career Planning for Nebraska Rural Women." The community college representatives will now conduct workshops in their areas for Nebraska women. Ms. Davis is project director, and Ms. Graham is the consultant for the project which was selected for funding by the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education.

JULIE HORMEY
Criminal Justice
Dr. Horney presented a paper, "Effects of Race on Plea Bargaining Decisions" at the American Society of Criminology meeting in San Francisco in November. Her paper, "Plea Bargaining Decision Factors," was published in Improving Management in Criminal Justice, a publication of the Sage Research Progress Series in Criminology.

BILL WAKEFIELD
Criminal Justice
Dr. Wakefield recently served as chairperson and discussant at the Criminal Justice Methods in Education workshop at the annual meeting of the Midwest Association of Criminal Justice Educators in Chicago. He was elected second vice president of the organization.

JIM THORSON
Gerontology
Dr. Thorson has made presentations recently to a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers retirement seminar for the North Central Region, to staff members at Commercial Federal Savings and Loan in Omaha, to a meeting of Volunteers Intervening for Equity (a project of the Omaha Junior League), to junior nursing students at Methodist Hospital, to two adult classes at the First Central Congregational Church of Omaha, and to the regular monthly meeting of the West Dodge chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons.

NEW GRADUATE ASSISTANTS
Victoria Wilcox, Mona Casey, and Diane Loughram are new graduate assistants in the Gerontology Program.

NO SHELVES YET
The CAUR staff is still working out of boxes more than two months after they moved into the Peter Kiewit Conference Center as shelves have not yet arrived.

Announcement of an open house in the new offices is pending.
DR. MISSINNE TO TAKE LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Dr. Leo Missinne, professor in the Gerontology Program, will be on sabbatical leave next semester. On January 1 he will go to the Andrews Gerontology Center at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles to conduct research on cross-national and cross-cultural problems in gerontology. He will also be lecturing and doing research for a paper on the meaning of life and the older person which he will present at a meeting of the Western Gerontology Society in April. Working with him on this research will be Vicky Wilcox, a graduate assistant.

ANN COYNE TO RECEIVE PH.D.

Ann Coyne, instructor in Social Work, will receive the doctor of philosophy degree in business administration from UN-L at the December 20 commencement.

Her dissertation is entitled, "Organizational Effectiveness of Public and Private Child Welfare Agencies."

Dedication Held

Dedication ceremonies for the Peter Kiewit Conference Center and State Office Building were held December 2. The new facility is occupied by the College of Continuing Studies, CAUR, and 15 state agencies.

EZRA KOHN
SUNNY ANDREWS

Social Work

Dr. Kohn and Dr. Andrews gave a paper at the American Public Health Association meeting in Detroit, "A Model Developmental Process for Establishing a Community Based Comprehensive Health and Social Service Program in a Multicultural Rural Area."

Dr. Kohn was elected to the UNO Senate Academic Freedom and Tenure committee. He has also been appointed chairman of the Second International Conference of the Inter-University Consortium on International Social Development. The conference will be held during the summer of 1982.

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