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CPACS Happenings (January 1977 Newsletter)

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

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CPACS HAPPENINGS

JANUARY 1977

Faculty-Staff Newsletter of the College of Public Affairs and Community Service

Gerontology Program

The Gerontology Program was organized in 1972 within what was then the new School of Public Affairs and Community Service. It was created to fulfill a portion of the University's commitment to improve the quality of life of Nebraska's older citizens through instruction, research, continuing education and community service. The staff works cooperatively within the University system as well as with community groups and agencies to achieve these goals.

At present a degree in gerontology is not available, however, graduate and undergraduate courses are offered and students may specialize in gerontology within a number of UNO academic departments. An undergraduate specialization requires 12 hours of course work in addition to a one-semester full time field placement. The objectives of this educational experience are to:

1. Improve the quality of planning and delivery of service to older people by increasing the student's skills in planning and service delivery.
2. Improve the student's knowledge of the role of older people within their cultural setting.
3. Improve the student's ability to deal with his own attitudes and society's attitudes toward the aged population.
4. Improve the student's knowledge of the processes of aging as they relate to his major field.
5. Improve the student's professional capacity through cognitive, affective, and experiential learning.

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Public Admin Grant

The Department of Public Administration has received a grant of \$7,908 from the U.S. Civil Service Commission through the Nebraska State Department of Personnel. The grant will be used to support the second annual Nebraska Municipal Clerks Certification School, to be held next March in Kearney. The school involves about 50 clerks from Nebraska cities, towns and villages in a program leading to certification as a professional municipal clerk. Dr David F. Paulsen is the program director.

CAUR on Housing Council

At the invitation of Governor James Exon, the Center for Applied Urban Research has been extended membership on the Nebraska State Housing Advisory Council. Governor Exon's letter states, "In light of the recent creation of the Division of Housing Research and Services by the University of Nebraska at Omaha, and acting upon the recommendation of the Council, I am now extending an invitation to you to serve on the Council." The Council is composed of representatives of State agencies that are involved in some aspect of housing.

Policy on Drops

As you know, the schedule for each semester includes a deadline by which students who wish to drop courses must do so. It is the policy of the Graduate College that students dropping courses after that official deadline must present a written statement outlining the reasons for withdrawing. A student who wishes to drop a course later in the semester should have a significant reason which extends beyond the fact that he/she is doing poorly in the course, and in general approved reasons will be aligned with medical or emergency factors. The written statement must be endorsed by the professor and will be subject to review by the Dean for Graduate Studies and Research.

New Retirement Packages

Shirley Waskel, Gerontology, has announced that two new packages of educational materials on the topic of preparation for retirement will be available very soon. The packages are designed especially for women and for women members of religious communities. They include slides, cassette tapes, activities, worksheets, and instructors guides for a series of sessions during which time women may examine their attitudes and preparation for retirement.

New Staff

Miss Kathleen Ryan has been employed to replace Sue Francke as Community Service Assistant within the Gerontology Program. Kathy is a recent graduate of Creighton University majoring in journalism and serving as managing editor of the "Creightonian." She will be taking the major responsibility for planning and carrying out this years "Senior Citizen Celebration Days" to be held in May.

(Continued from page 1)

...Gerontology

The undergraduate student involved in the specialist program would be qualified to work in a field of aging in relation to his or her major. The education and practicum experience provide the student with a multidisciplinary base of knowledge which would enhance performance in his or her chosen field.

The graduate specialization offers four options or concentrations for students with varied interests. These include: administration, programming, human services, and an individualized program.

Student involvement has provided a great contribution to the development of the Program. With their input an audio-visual simulation of age-related vision and hearing changes and a game simulating the effects of retirement on aging individuals have been developed and distributed.

Although important, the academic program is only a portion of the Program's total activity. Research projects are ongoing--action-oriented and Nebraska focused.

They have dealt with the effects of the Omaha tornado on older people, the use of public opinion polls to determine attitudes to aging, and the development of national policy for research on housing of older people (in cooperation with the Center for Applied Urban Research).

The Administration on Aging has provided grants which have been used to conduct workshops for practitioners and professionals in the field of aging. These continuing education

More Gerontology!

activities have been conducted in numerous locations across the state and have focused on nutrition, management, values clarification, and service delivery in aging.

A major part of the Program's activity has been devoted to the area of direct service to older people. A major example of this is the annual three-day festival of education and arts during which the University Student Center is devoted to activities for older people. Health screening, entertainment, mini courses, displays, and other activities are provided without charge to older persons.

The activities of the Gerontology Program are carried out by the sixteen core staff members who are under the direction of Dr. David A Peterson. Dr. Peterson assumed the post of director in 1972 when the Gerontology Program began. He holds a doctorate in Adult Education from the University of Michigan and is a Professor of Education and a graduate faculty fellow. Other faculty and staff include:

Bill Bell, Research Coordinator, is an Associate Professor of Gerontology and holds a doctorate in sociology from the University of Missouri.

Gary Ross, who is acting Coordinator of Academics, is working on his doctorate at UN-L in Philosophy of Education.

Coordinator of Community Service is JoAnne Lofton, a graduate of Tuskegee Institute with an M.S. in Home Economics.

Chris Bolton, who is Coordinator of Continuing Education, earned his Ph.D. in Higher Education and Human Relations from the University of Oklahoma.

Donna Eden, Program Associate, received her Ed.D. in educational evaluation from the University of Virginia.

Bruce Horacek, Community Service Associate and Instructor, is finishing his dissertation through the University of Iowa in Historical Theology.

Leo Missinne, an Associate Professor of Gerontology, received his doctorate in educational sciences from the Louvain University in Belgium.

C.F. Powell holds a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Oklahoma and serves as a Community Service Associate in the program.

A Continuing Education Associate, Shirley Waskel, is working on her Doctorate in Adult Education at UN-L.

Kathy Tornquist serves as Administrative Assistant to the director.

Research Assistant is Gail Kara who is finishing her M.S. degree in sociology.

Kathleen Ryan is Community Service Assistant. She recently completed her bachelors degree in journalism at Creighton University.

The support staff is managed by Carole Nelson and includes Debbie Von de Veld and Carol Jenkins as Secretary and Clerk Typist.

Staff Activities

Jim GARRETT (Social Work) received notification that his Ph.D. in Political Science from St. Louis University will be conferred in December of 1976. The topic of his dissertation is Post-Release Civil and Political Disabilities of Convicted Individuals in the United States. CONGRATULATIONS, Jim!

On November 19, Dr. Garrett was a guest lecturer in the Department of Political Science at St. Louis University, speaking on civil and political disabilities. He also has published an article "Second Class Citizens Forever" which will appear in the Iowa Journal of Social Work, volume vii, #4, December 1976.

Peter SUZUKI (Urban Studies) recently spoke to the Fontenelle School Faculty on the topic "The Social Structures and Values of Asian American Communities."

Ann COYNE (Social Work) was named to the selection committee for Fellows of the North American Center for Adoption.

Paul LEE (CAUR) delivered an address on "The Cost of Compact Versus Scattered Land Use Development" to the Land Use Planning Seminar held in North Platte, Nebraska on November 30. The seminar was co-sponsored by the UN-L Architectural College's Community Resource and Research Center and the Lincoln County Planning Commission.

Murray FROST (CAUR) authored "Philatelic Judaica" which was published in the November 1976 issue of Moment magazine. He also served recently as a referee for an article submitted to American Politics Quarterly.

David LILLIE (CAUR Graduate Assistant) will read a paper on "Pendleton Mills, Omaha, Nebraska: A Case Study in Industrial Location," at the 1977 conference of the Association of American Geographers in Salt Lake City on April 25.

Bill WAKEFIELD (Criminal Justice) has been named a member of the University of Nebraska graduate faculty.

Christopher BOLTON (Gerontology) participated in the symposium "Educational Gerontology: Interface of Adult Education and Gerontology" during the recent Adult Education Association convention in New York City.

John KERRIGAN and David HINTON (Dean's Office) presented a paper on the topic "Universities and Urban Education: A Collegial Response" at the Second National Conference on Urban Education in Milwaukee.

MON

TUES

WED

THUR

FRI

University Holiday

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*Deans' Council 9 am
*UNO Orientation thru January 13

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EPAC 1:30

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Last day to submit credentials for undergraduate admission for 2nd semester

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Registration begins 4:30 pm through Jan. 13

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CPACS Dept. Heads 1 pm

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Faculty Senate 2:30

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*2nd semester begins
*Change of class schedules through Jan. 21
*Reappointment, promotion, tenure recommendations due to Dean

17

*Deans' Council 9 am
*CPACS Dept. Heads 1 pm

18

EPAC 1:30 pm

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Deadline for class changes (adds, audit to grade, CR/NC to grade)

21

*Deans' Council 9 am
*CPACS Dept. Heads 1 pm

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AY 1977-78 reappointments for persons in 1st yr of specific term appt. due to Provost

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Happy New Year!