CPACS Happenings (March 1980 Newsletter)

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

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Above—the little playhouse that used to sit in the back yard of the former Louis home on Elmwood Road.

Below—The ranch-in-a-grand-style home that now houses the Graduate School of Social Work.

At left—A 20 by 40 foot heated swimming pool, filled in since the University acquired the property, looked like this when the Walter Louis family lived in what is now Annex 23.
Nestled among the big old brick houses on the west edge of the campus is a low, rambling frame home. Although it may appear smaller than its neighbors, Annex 23, which houses the Graduate School of Social Work, actually is one of the largest of the buildings acquired for office space by UNO.

Built in a ranch style designed by John F. Hyde, Jr., A. I. A., the first floor has 2,892 square feet, and the beautifully finished garden level has 2,215.

UNO bought the property in January, 1975 from Walter R. Louis, owner of the Omaha Auto Auction, for $145,000, but he continued to live there another year after he sold his home.

The property, part of the Buena Vista Terrace plat, was originally purchased in 1940 by Herbert and Olga Davis. They sold it to Dr. Herbert Davis, Jr., and his wife Nell who built the house there in 1964, so it is one of the newest of the annexes.

Mary Alyce Louis, wife of Walter Louis, bought the home from the Davises in August, 1969. Only seven months later she died, leaving the property to her husband. Two of their four daughters were married, and two were still living at home at the time of their mother’s death.

During the time the Louises and their daughters lived there, the lower level was finished, the heated swimming pool and a playhouse were built, and much additional landscaping was done. They also redecorated the main floor.

Clear cedar siding painted a soldier blue is found on the exterior, and the roof has hand-split cedar shakes.

The entry foyer has a tiled marble floor. Gold plated plumbing fixtures are found in the powder room and the master bath and are matched by the cabinet hardware in the large dressing room. Each of the three bedrooms on the first floor has its own bathroom.

Blue was evidently a favorite of Mrs. Louis as this color has been used extensively on walls and woodwork.

The home has the equivalent of 11 rooms with four and a half baths plus a number of utility and storage rooms. It also has central air conditioning, something not found in the older homes nearby.

A large patio extends across the west side of the house with a curved walk leading down to the swimming pool area. The pool has been filled in since the University acquired the property, and the little playhouse is no longer there either, having burned down one summer. Originally it had bunk beds and was equipped for the installation of utilities.

Now secretaries work in what was once a 22 by 15 foot living room. Partitions were put up to separate the living room, dining room, and library from each other, and the library was further divided into three office spaces. Fixtures were removed from the kitchen to make it into an office.

The timbered and paneled recreation room in the garden level formerly had a wet bar. Mirror paneled cupboards are still in place. In another room doors have been removed from a storage closet to make room for a row of desks.

The appraisal made when the University acquired the property states, “A careful inspection indicates that cost was not a seeming factor in...the development and refurbishing of the home.” However, cost has been a factor in maintenance since the University bought these houses, and Annex 23 has not escaped.

Vincent Webb Named New CAUR Director

Vince Webb, new CAUR director.

Dr. Vince Webb, formerly chairman of the Department of Criminal Justice at UNO and acting assistant CPACS dean, will assume the directorship of the Center for Applied Urban Research on July 1, subject to approval of his appointment by the Board of Regents.

Dr. Webb, presently on leave to act as principal investigator for the Joint Commission on Criminology and Criminal Justice Education and Standards at the University of Illinois in Chicago, will be returning to UNO where he has been a faculty member since 1973.

He received both his B. A. and M. A. degrees from UNO and his Ph.D. from Iowa State University. All three were in sociology.

Dr. Webb was chosen to head CAUR from a field of 47 applicants for the position. He has had extensive teaching, administrative, and research experience both at UNO and Iowa State University. A member of Phi Kappa Phi and Alpha Kappa Delta, he is the author of numerous articles in professional publications and papers presented at professional meetings.

Dr. Webb and his wife Marilee have an 11-year-old son. Their home is at 2408 North 52nd Street in Omaha.

Back in May last year, an article about Vince in the HAPPENINGS listed his personal interests as music (especially country western), woodworking, canoeing, and fishing as well as running. In those days he was wearing three hats—assistant CJ prof, acting assistant dean, and CJ department head—so he ran a great deal.

Senior Expertise Exchange Seminars Help Older Citizens Teach Each Other

Two four-week seminars for older adults began in March as part of the Senior Expertise Exchange. “Nebraska History” was taught to a class of 13 at First Presbyterian Church, 216 So. 34th Street. “Making the Most of Your Income” was taught to 12 older adults at St. Cecilia’s Cathedral, 701 No. 40th Street.

The Senior Expertise Exchange, a new program that allows senior citizens to teach other older people, is co-sponsored by the Gerontology Program and CCS.
BARBARA CASE

Barbara Case, who is a new Secretary III in the dean's office, worked for one and a half years in the office of the dean of education before taking her present position six weeks ago.

She attended UN-L for two and a half years, starting out as an elementary education major but switching to business education. She also attended UNO for a couple of years and is taking advantage of her employee scholarship to take an accounting course this semester.

She's a native Omahan who graduated from Westside High and would like to have her own apartment, but since she recently bought a new car, she's going to have to postpone apartment hunting for a while.

Barb likes to cook, especially Italian or Chinese dishes, and she runs and swims when she can.

Her duties include reception, answering the phone, typing, keeping minutes for the curriculum committee, and taking Dean Kerrigan's dictation—so she keeps very busy, but she likes it that way.

Working in Annex 24 has an advantage over working in Kayser Hall as she now has windows she can look out of.

URBAN RESEARCH GRANTS
AWARDED TO CAUR

The Center for Applied Urban Research has received a Title V grant from the Nebraska Rural Development Council to study the contributions female-owned and inherited businesses are making to the economy in non-metropolitan Nebraska communities.

CAUR has also received a grant from the Denver Urban Observatory to study the feasibility of establishing a center for transfer of scientific and technological information to units of local government in Nebraska.

The Building Owners and Managers Association has asked CAUR to do a study for their long-range planning committee to determine how BOMA can better serve the owners and managers of buildings in the Omaha metropolitan area.

A study under a fourth recent grant has been completed. Metro Area Carpool, a division of Metro Area Transit, asked CAUR to determine the effectiveness of their program to promote carpooling and to assist in making recommendations to enhance the effectiveness of this program.

GERONTOLOGY PROGRAM PUBLISHES
PROCEEDINGS OF SYMPOSIUM

The proceedings of a symposium on "Gerontological Aspects of Developmental Disabilities: The State of the Art" were recently published by the Gerontology Program. The book includes 16 articles contributed by educators, practitioners, and researchers who presented papers at last year's symposium in Kansas City, Missouri.

The proceedings are intended to be used as "a source book for people who are interested in or involved in developmental disabilities projects," said Patsy Daniels, assistant to the director of the Gerontology Program and editor of the proceedings.

The developmental disabilities symposium was part of a three-year project in which the Gerontology Program undertook research, public service and curriculum development related to the developmentally disabled aged.

Both the symposium and its proceedings were partially funded by the Bureau of Developmental Disabilities, a division within the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Helen Noyes at her old desk.

She Can't Stay Away

Helen Noyes was back at her old desk in the dean's office one day last week while both Carole Stephens and Barbara Case were attending a secretarial seminar.

She was enjoying being there, too.

"At first I thought that retirement was just great," she said.

"I had so many things to do that I'd had to put off when I was working, but then it became kind of old."

Helen would like to be back working part time, she says. She misses all the people and the many friends she made working at UNO for those ten years. She recently also filled in at PA for a few days to help with the municipal clerks' school activities.

She and her husband Bill, who is also retired, had a nice trip to the west coast last summer. They went to Seattle where he went salmon fishing, and she visited two sisters who live in the area. Then they went to California where they visited their daughters and their two grandchildren.

Helen was back out in California in February, mainly to see the grandchildren, she says. Any grandmother will understand why.

Making doll house furniture is another activity that is keeping her busy. She's built a tiny organ and worked some miniature needlepoint rugs, among other items, for a colonial-style doll house that she's going to put together from a kit.
Staff Activity

PETER SUZUKI
Urban Studies
An article, “A New Town in an Old City: Le Parnasse in Brussels,” by Dr. Suzuki has been accepted for publication in Urban Design International.

CHRIS ESKRIDGE
Criminal Justice
Dr. Eskridge recently served as a discussant at the Western Society of Criminology meetings. He also presented a paper at the annual meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. His paper, “VIP Operations: The State of the Art,” has been accepted for publication in the Sage Research Progress Series in Criminology.

LAURENCE FRENCH
Criminal Justice
Recent publications by Dr. French include: “Indian Stress and Violence” in Journal of Alcohol and Drug Education; “Corrections and the Native American Client” in The Prison Journal; The Cherokee Perspective, a book being published by the Appalachian Consortium Press; and Minority Violence and Victimization with Sloan Letman being published by Loyola University Press.
Dr. French presented three papers at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences meetings held in Oklahoma City in March and served as a discussant at a session on “Issues Related to the Education and Training Needs of Minorities” at these same meetings. He also served as chairman of two other sessions.

ANN COYNE
Social Work
Ms. Coyne was recently named to the steering committee of the Region VII Adoption Resource Center at the University of Missouri–Columbia.

DAVID R. DIMARTINO
CAUR
Dr. DiMartino has been awarded a Fulbright Commission travel grant to initiate a collaborative research program between the Center for Applied Urban Research and Shizuoka University, UNO’s sister institution in Japan. The research program will focus upon human service delivery systems, and the initial tactics will be established in late summer or early fall this year.

DAVID R. DIMARTINO
MURRAY FROST
CAUR
Dr. Frost and Dr. DiMartino attended the annual national meeting of the Council on University Institutes for Urban Affairs held in Washington, D.C. recently.
Dr. Frost was a discussant on a panel on the “Impact of State and Federal Mandates.”
CUAUA has accepted an invitation to convene in Omaha next year at the new Kiewit Conference Center downtown, and Dr. DiMartino will be the arrangements coordinator.

SAM WALKER
Criminal Justice
Dr. Walker was the featured speaker at the Nebraska Undergraduate Sociology Symposium held in Hastings in February. His topic was “What Can We Do About Crime? Policy for the 1980’s.”
Sam debated the issue of calling a constitutional convention to enact a human life amendment to the U.S. Constitution during a broadcast on KESY-FM on March 9. Representing the Nebraska Civil Liberties Union, Sam opposed the proposed amendment which was supported by a spokesperson for Metro Area Right to Life.

DONNA EDEN
Gerontology
In late February Dr. Eden appeared on KMTV’s “Conversations,” KETV’s “Newswatch Omaha,” and KYNE’s “UNO Scene” to discuss the Senior Expertise Exchange.

SHIRLEY WASKEL
Gerontology
Dr. Waskel conducted a two-hour workshop on “Facilitating Applied Problem Solving of the Elderly” at the 26th annual meeting of the Western Gerontological Society March 8-12 in Anaheim, California.

STUDENT SOCIAL WORK GROUP
CHOSES NEW OFFICERS
Bill Gust has been elected president of the Student Social Work Organization. He succeeds Tim Mathern.
Other officers, who will serve a one-year term beginning April 1, are Terry Werner, vice-president; Jo Chambers, secretary; and Allan McGough, treasurer.
Kathy Plunkett is the new membership chairman, and Judy Balsanek will serve as education chairman. Gale Coleman and Jane Greiser will edit the newsletter. Janie Johnson and Susan Evans will be in charge of resources.

Jack Newton, Dean
Arts and Sciences
Administration 202