Campus Conversations

September 3, 2003

People Placements

The following are new people around campus, as well as those who have relocated to new positions. Class years of Union College alumni are noted.

Rebecca Bollinger—associate professor, human development
Jack Burdick—director, student financial services
Veneracion Cabana—professor, science and mathematics
Rudy Dennis—assistant professor, fine arts
Jim Gaul ’94—plant services, painter
Lowell Hagele—professor, science and mathematics
Debra Heinrich ’99—instructor, nursing
Joann Herrington ’74—associate professor, human development
Gina Jacob ’03—campus ministries staff
Nancy McBride—office manager, business
Norman McBride—associate professor, business
Mike Mennard—assistant professor, humanities
Arthur Moody ’03—technical services assistant and circulation desk supervisor, library
Angela Penrosa—mailroom, half-time secretary, social work program
Sabrina Riley—director, library
Laura Rumsey ’03—Web content manager and writer, Marketing Communications
Malcolm Russell—vice president for academic administration
Sharon Russell—conference and guest services coordinator for the Ortner Center, Advancement
Tell Suckut ’03—computer programmer, Information Systems
Benjamin Thornton—assistant professor, science and mathematics
Richard Webb—professor, science and mathematics
Theresa Wong—salad cook, Dining Services

Eugene Sardis. The trip resulted in 2,579 baptisms over the period of two weeks in the city of Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.

New classes this year include principles of astronomy and gymnastics for everyone.

The Division of Humanities now offers a minor in pre-law.

The Division of Fine Arts now offers a B.A. degree in piano pedagogy. Dr. Ken Hoppman and Dr. Ryan Wells are the co-directors for this new degree which will enable students to teach piano in an independent studio setting.

If your division is offering a new course, major or minor that we have not listed here, please send a message via e-mail to Jade Smith at jsmith@ucollege.edu.

Campus Highlights

This summer two new employee positions were made possible in part through grants. The new position in Marketing Communications filled by Laura Rumsey was funded in part by the North American Division and Mid-America Union through the NAD communication intern program. Gina Jacob is working with Rich Carlson to prepare a leadership training manual for Adventist college and university campus ministries programs and an orientation manual for college and university chaplains. Her position is totally funded by grants from four organizations outside of Union. Gina attended two leadership conferences this summer as she builds the foundation for her two-year task force position.

The Ortner Center is scheduled to open in November. The main entrance to the center will feature a brick plaza to be called the Tribute Terrace. All sixteen commemorative tiles have already been sold, however, there are still bricks available to purchase for $250 each. Faculty and staff are invited to take advantage of this unique way to leave a mark on the campus. For more information, contact the Advancement office.

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A student-led prayer group will meet at 6:30 a.m. in front of the Dick Building Monday through Friday. All are welcome to attend.

From September 14 - 18, the Leadership and Honor Class Phonathon jump-starts the general phonathon that continues from September 21 through October 9. The difference between the two? Callers for the leadership phonathon volunteer their time to call leadership donors and honor class alumni. It's a great way to connect with alumni and friends who have a vested interest in Union. Call Linda Skinner, ext. 2031 for more information.

Faculty and staff are invited to the Library Fair on Thurs., Sept. 4 from 3-7 p.m. An unusual variation of Trivial Pursuit will be played throughout the library and prizes from various local businesses will be awarded. Participating businesses include: Baskin Robbins, Bed, Bath and Beyond, The Oven and many others have donated prizes. Refreshments will be served during the event. Please stop and play as well as encourage students to attend.

Advent Capella, a choir from the Philippines, will be performing for chapel, Tuesday, Sept. 23.

**FACULTY NOTABLES**

The employee wellness program is well under way with 80 percent of faculty expected to participate in this semester's program called Applaud the Stars. There was a good turnout for the health screenings that kicked off the program. If you are still interested in participating, it's not too late. Blue registration forms in the wellness packets should be turned in by Sept. 7. The program is divided up by division with a faculty member designated as a keeper of the stars within each division to motivate participants throughout the semester.

Mike Huckabee, director of the PA program, was invited to attend the Leadership Summit of the American Academy of Physician Assistants in Washington, DC., in July.

Earl Pate, associate director of the PA program, manned a booth at the Nebraska State Fair last week, representing the Nebraska Beekeepers Association. He provided educational programs for children and adults alike including live bee demonstrations and the production of honey ice cream.

Bruce Schlieder, associate professor of human development, presented at the Annual Peruvian Teachers Conference held at Peruvian Union University in mid-July. He also spoke at a conference of professional social workers, psychologists and administrators from agencies that serve homeless and orphaned children. There is a follow-up conference tentatively planned for March 2004.

Sylvester Case, associate professor of religion, was a delegate to the International Conference on Religious and Theological Education held at the General Conference. He was also a guest speaker at Rochester, Minn. Adventist church and Filipino Adventist church in Redland, Calif.

**KUDOS**

Special thanks goes to those who endured the hot weather to assist in the student move in. An extra kudo goes to Keith Riese who helped all day Friday and on Sunday from 8 a.m. until the last car was unloaded that evening. ~ Janya Mekelburg

Thank you to all the faculty and staff who came out to demonstrate their support of Project Impact again this year. Nearly 650 students, faculty and staff went to 50 sites around Lincoln to serve the community. The students notice that you are there and appreciate it. So do I! ~ Rich Carlson

Have you witnessed a random act of kindness or would simply like to thank someone for something they did? We would love to pass your Kudos along. Just e-mail Jasmith Smith at jasmith@ucollege.edu.

**CAMPUS TRIVIA**

How did Union College get the nickname “peanut hill”? (Look for the answer in the next issue of Campus Conversations.)

Do you have a unique piece of trivia about Union? If so let us know and we will include it in a future issue.

Campus Conversations will soon be appearing in more than just your mailboxes. Let us know what you think of the new distribution of this newsletter.

Share in the conversation. Because the purpose of Campus Conversations is to help inform and connect Union College employees, we need to hear from you. To submit story ideas to Campus Conversations, direct campus mail to Jacque Smith, Marketing Communications or e-mail jasmith@ucollege.edu.

Don't let your good news go unnoticed.

*Edited by Anna Hartfield*