

SCHOLAR'S SCROLL

Pepperdine University
Graduate School of
Education and Psychology

Spring 2006

Hollywood Beautification Project

Three students in the Master of Arts in Education and Teaching Credential program were awarded a \$10,000 grant from the City of Los Angeles for a Hollywood neighborhood beautification project.

As part of a program requirement for the Social Change Project in the Teacher Education curriculum at GSEP, Fernando Ibarra, Tina Jung and Perry Yook, who student teach at the Santa Monica Boulevard Community Charter School, along with Dr. Eugene Kim, will oversee the use of the grant to repaint the school buildings, purchase benches for a parent waiting area, place trash receptacles in the neighborhood and landscape around the school grounds.

"The Social Change Project requires students to take leadership of a project that will impact the community in a way that is collaborative and lasting," said Kim.

The Santa Monica Boulevard Community Charter School, which was founded in 1910, is located across the street from Paramount Studios and is one of several GSEP Professional Development Schools. As a result of this grant, other student-teacher teams at Santa Monica Boulevard Community Charter School are looking into various grants for their Social Change Projects. ■

Faculty & Staff in the Spotlight

Kathy Church presented "Considering Social Cognition as an Avenue to Enhance Comprehension and Promote Pro-social Behavior" and "Professional Development in Action: a Professional Development School's Yearlong Writing Project" at the Hawaii International Conference on Education in Honolulu, January 6-7.

Anthony Collatos spoke on the topic of academic research in "Critical College Access: Reframing How and Why We Intervene in the K-16 Educational Pipeline" at the UC Santa Cruz Education Department Colloquium Series on Jan 18. He is scheduled for two presentations: "Urban Parents as Teacher Educators: Creating Spaces for Empowered Parents to Build Bridges across Differences" and "Critical College Access: Reframing How We Empower Marginalized Youth to Navigate Bimodal High Schools" at AERA in San Francisco, April 7-11. The latter is part of a larger symposium panel entitled "Closing the Achievement Gap in Bimodal High Schools."

Saul Duarte, Reyna Garcia-Ramos and **Linda Purrington** presented, "Educators for Today's Schools: Examining the Connection of Theory, Practice and Partnerships in Training Programs," at the CABE Annual Conference at the San Jose Convention Center March 1-4.

Chris Ellsasser, Cara Garcia, Eugene Kim, Lou Castillo, doctoral student **Robin Potchka,** and alumna and professional development school teacher **Jennifer Moore** made a group presentation entitled "Authentic Partnerships: A Constructivist Approach

to School-University Partnerships," at the Professional Development School (PDS) National Conference in Orlando, March 23-26. Ellsasser also presented a paper entitled "An Invitation to the Wonderland of Teacher Education" at the Hawaii International Conference on Education.

Susan Hall will be doing a book signing on April 29 at the LA Times Festival of Books. She will also be co-presenting "Promoting Accountability in Graduate Psychology Training Clinics Through Systematic Client Assessment" with **Drs. Mesha Ellis** and **Kathleen Eldridge** at WASC on April 12. This presentation will highlight the experiences of implementing systematic assessments in the training clinics and counseling centers at GSEP.

Nancy Harding, Etta Kralovec, and **Margaret Weber** presented on the use of the Boyer Model in, "Avoiding Landmines on the Road to New Practices" at the PDS National Conference.

Margaret Riel published the chapter "Culture of critique: Online learning circles and peer review in graduate education," with Pepperdine students in the book *Self, Peer and Group Assessment in E-learning*, edited by Tim Roberts. She will also be one of the keynote speakers at the International Education and Resource Network World Conference 2006 in the Netherlands in July and she will be speaking at an invited workshop called "Instructional Strategies for Online Learning" on July 30.

35th Anniversary Event

GSEP commemorated 35 years of education programs by hosting an event at the breathtaking Casa del Mar Hotel in Santa Monica on March 11.

To commemorate the milestone, the 35th Anniversary Scholarship Fund was announced, through which all tax deductible gifts made to GSEP during the anniversary year will be awarded to students. Also announced was the Jan and Robert Davidson Endowed Professorship, established to recognize academic excellence and scholarship in educational technology. The Davidson's developed computer software to support education in kindergarten through high school and today are engaged in supporting gifted young people through their foundation, the Davidson Institute for Talent Development. The first endowed professorship was awarded to **Dr. Linda Polin**, GSEP professor of education.

Following the 35th anniversary dedications, the highly esteemed Dr. Miroslav Volf was introduced to an audience of many different faiths. Volf is the author of numerous books on diversity from a faith-based perspective and is the Henry B. Wright Professor of Systematic Theology at Yale Divinity School and Director of the Yale Center for Faith and Culture. Volf is an internationally recognized human-rights advocate, who has vigorously promoted peace in the Serbian-Croatian conflict, which continues to take place in his homeland of Croatia. A question and answer period followed Volf's presentation and the celebration concluded with the showing of a short film on the school's 35-year history. ■

In Brief...

The **ELAP Cohort #3** attended its February classes at the American Association of School Administrator's Annual Conference on Education in San Diego.

MAETC alums Alissa Piro, Maggie Malone, Jennifer Oliver and Mary Leonidas presented at the 2006 spring conference of the California Council on

GSEP Honors California Superintendents

Educational leaders from across the state came together for the annual Superintendent Advisory Council dinner in Monterey, Calif. The event took place at Tarp's Roadhouse on January 25, during the annual Association of California School Administrators Conference and was organized by the Superintendent Advisory Council.

As part of the annual reception dinner, the GSEP Superintendent of the Year award was presented to Dr. Robert Fraisse, superintendent of the Conejo Valley Unified School District. Fraisse was selected to receive the honor in part for his collaboration with GSEP in forming a Professional Development School (PDS). As a way to enhance engagement with the K-12 urban environment, GSEP has developed several Professional Development Schools in southern California. These schools allow GSEP teacher education students to spend

Service Learning Activity

Doctoral students in the Leading Educational Programs course, taught by Diana Hiatt-Michael, developed a workshop for The First Annual Conference of Los Angeles Regional Teen Pregnancy Prevention Collaboration.

The workshop was presented on March 18 at the St. Mary's Conference Center in Long Beach. Program staff, administrators and two to three teen leaders from each of the 50 regional centers participated in the workshops.

Teens, program staff, and Pepperdine doctoral students had rave reviews of the workshops and teens described Pepperdine students as "enthusiastic, caring, and intelligent." ■

Teacher Education

Reyna G. García Ramos and 13 MAETC students attended the annual conference of the California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE) in March.



From left to right: John Fitzpatrick, Margaret Weber, Robert Fraisse and Chet McCall.

more time in the classroom with K-12 students and become more engaged with the school environment and community.

Through Fraisse's leadership, GSEP has placed multiple teacher education students at the PDS in the Manzanita Elementary School, in Newbury Park, Calif. ■

New Employees

Jamie Green, 1/16/06, director, budget and research;

Deanna Lazaro, 3/20/06, program administrator, psychology;

Mark Matyas, 4/3/06, web manager;

Jennifer Scharnikow, 3/20/06, marketing manager, psychology;

Sandy Vandenberg, 4/3/06, program administrator, education.

Upcoming Events

GSEP Staff Appreciation Day at the Getty: April 26.

CABE meeting: April 26 at 6pm, WLA.

GSEP Booth at LA Times Festival of Books: April 29-30th, UCLA.

Psychology Commencement: May 20.

Education Commencement: July 8.

GSEP Faculty/Staff Picnic: October 7.

The Scholar's Scroll is published monthly by Pepperdine University's Graduate School of Education and Psychology for GSEP faculty and staff. For questions regarding this publication, please contact Heather Turgeon at gsepedit@pepperdine.edu.