



The Communicator

Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Adult and Community Education
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Adult Educator Works with Internationals in Allegheny County

Danis (Dani) Kubiak says she “got into adult education quite by accident” ... and then found a home there. While a stay-at-home mom in the late eighties an instructor from an adult education program became ill and she was contacted to substitute teach — “to hold down the fort for a few weeks,” she says. “That assignment lasted for six months and I never left the program. I learned quickly that I loved working with adults much more than working with children in an elementary education classroom.”



With an extensive background that includes earning her masters in ACE in 1998, Dani is now adult ESL (English as a Second Language) coordinator for Allegheny County.

The program, part of the Com-

munity Education Division of the Allegheny Intermediate Unit, began serving refugees in the early eighties in response to refugee resettlement of Vietnamese after the war. It has continued to grow since that time and now serves over 1,100 adult internationals from all over the world per year. The program continues to serve refugees, immigrants, and others who Dani says represent a wide range of socio-economic and educationally diverse people.

She manages a large adult ESL program with a staff of about 20 regular employees. In addition to

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Vera Values Arts & Transformative Learning

Vera (Aureto) Bonnet’s interest in the Indiana County arts scene began by organizing the annual Potters Tour to promote the work of her husband, Bob Bonnet, and other local ceramic artists. Now she oversees the Indiana Arts Council, which promotes all the arts in the county.

Vera accepted the position in 2007 after several years of membership on the board of directors, where she served as secretary and

vice president.

“My goal is to be an advocate for the arts, whether in education or in the community-at-large, so people realize the arts have value beyond the merely decorative and entertaining,” she says. “We have moved beyond the information society into one that values innovation and creative approaches to problems. The arts are critical to our economy and to the future of our society.”

A 2000 ACE graduate, Vera says, “ACE taught me that learning can be transformative.” She puts that concept to her work with the Arts Council, which is primarily known for staging the New Growth Arts Festival. New leadership has attempted to steer the organization away from producing events and towards a greater role in advocacy, networking, and nurturing of our local artists. Finding the balance between the two has been a

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AECT Grad selected as the Dean of Educational Technology at Butler County Community College in Butler, PA

Ann Fife was recently selected as the Dean of Educational Technology at Butler County Community College (BC3) in Butler, PA. She began in August 2008.

In this position, Ann and the Division of Educational Technology team is responsible for the College's online course work. Ann oversees the development of new courses, as well as the training of faculty who teach these courses. The college currently uses the Blackboard course management system, and has approximately 100 online courses available throughout the Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters. BC3 also offers many online components to traditional face-to-face classes.

Ann also oversees and coordinates training for faculty and staff in other educational technology hardware, software, and internet tools. The Division of Educational Technology



provides email addresses for all students enrolled at BC3, and runs a helpdesk to provide support for student email and the Blackboard courses.

Ann graduated from IUP in 2003 with a Bachelor of Science in Communications Media, and in 2004 with a Master of Arts in the AECT program. She also earned her Instructional Technology

Specialist Certification through IUP and the Pennsylvania Department of Education in 2004 at the completion of the AECT program. While at IUP, she worked as a Graduate Assistant in the Department of Communications Media, as well as a Materials Development Specialist for Dr. Richard Lamberski.

Ann is also an alumni of BC3, where she earned her Associates in Applied Science in Executive Secretarial in 1996 prior to transferring to IUP.

Ann credits the wonderful faculty and staff of the AECT program at IUP with inspiring her to pursue a career in training, and in particular, educational technology. "IUP and the AECT program provided a wide-variety of educational and practical experiences that have built a solid foundation for my career" she says.

Spring 2009 Course Schedule

<u>Title</u>	<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>
ACE 622 Program & Process Dev. in ACE	Dr. Ritchey	W	6:00-9:00 p.m.
ACE 622 Program & Process Dev. in ACE	Dr. Ritchey	R (Monroeville)	6:00-9:00 p.m.
ACE 740 Internship in ACE	Dr. Ritchey	TBA	TBA
ACE 745 Practical Research in ACE	Dr. Dean	M	6:00-9:00 p.m.
ACE 745 Practical Research in ACE	Dr. Dean	T (Monroeville)	6:00-9:00 p.m.
ACE 795 Thesis	TBA	TBA	TBA
COMM 614 Instructional Computing Basics	Dr. Lenze	R	5:05-7:45 p.m.
COMM 631 Interactive Multimedia	Dr. Partridge	T	5:05-7:45 p.m.

ACE and AECT Programs now accepting applications for Spring 2009!

Did our program help you to achieve your professional and personal goals? Please tell your friends, colleagues, anyone that is interested in making a positive impact on the lives of adults to contact Dr. Dean at gidean@iup.edu or Dr. Ritchey at jritchey@iup.edu for more information about our programs. Also don't forget about our websites- www.iup.edu/ace & www.iup.edu/aect



Adult Educator Works with Internationals in Allegheny County (cont. from Page 1)

the daily management required for a school offering five levels of ESL classes, four days per week, morning, afternoon and evening, her responsibilities include recruitment, public relations, grant writing, teacher training, workplace contracts, and program-monitoring for state performance standards.

She gives IUP's ACE program high ratings. "I cannot say enough about my experience with the ACE program," Dani says. "I loved the fact that it was so learner-centered; the idea that one can 'contract' to study areas of interest or need is fantastic. That model beautifully represents the process of how adults learn—I really came to appreciate that."

Over the years, she has reflected on the value of her master's level education. "I realize just how on-target the readings, projects, and discussions were for someone who works with an adult population. I would never consider myself a researcher—but the program also helped me to seek out, learn from, and appreciate the more researched-based materials that are so readily available to practitioners. I do not know if I would have tapped into these resources as much if I had not participated in the ACE program," she says.

Vera Values Arts & Transformative Learning (cont. from Page 1)

challenge as the Arts Council sets its course for the next five years with a new strategic plan.

Holocaust Task Force

Vera is also a board member of the National Catholic Center for Holocaust Education, a part of Seton Hill University in Greensburg, another area where learning can be transformative.

The center is dedicated to teaching about the Holocaust, particularly, but not exclusively, in Catholic educational institutions.



It also sponsors trips to Israel for teachers and educators and holds a conference on campus every three years to exchange information and share best practices on teaching the Holocaust.

She taught "Italy and the Holocaust" for the PA Holocaust Task Force in the past and was trained to lead "prejudice reduction" workshops at Seton Hill. Vera currently uses the model to train domestic violence prevention volunteers at the Alice Paul House, helping them recognize the dynamics of prejudice in themselves and in others.



Congratulations Graduates!!

ACE

May 2008

Su Jin Son

August 2008

Elizabeth Kalu
Andrew Nutter
Stacy Pound
J.W. Tabacchi
Jan Woodard

AECT

May 2008

Christopher Garritano

August 2008

Nicole Balsinger
Jason Bowry
Ryan Brown
Zach Cox
Chris Juengel
George Konetes
Melissa Latini
Rakhi Mathur
Stephen Novak
Kamar Robinson
Philip Sarachine
Tonya Scalise
Brian D. Scarpiniti



Spotlight

ACE Grad Organizes The First Annual Pittsburgh Conference on Mothering Studies

“Why don’t these little people come with instruction booklets?” was a question posed by Jen Primack (ACE ’06). This prompted her to organize The First Annual Pittsburgh Conference on Mothering studies, also called the “Mommy Conference.”

The conference was held at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania Monroeville Campus on April 6, 2008 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Primack, winner of the 2006 Margaret Mahler Memorial Award for Outstanding Student in Adult and Community Education, has two children: Micah, 4 ½, and Sadie, 1 ½. The goal of the conference was for mothers to learn tips to “enhance their mothering skills,” relax in a schedule different from their regular routine, and to recharge to be the best woman



Front: Gayle Latulippe, Linda Engel;
Back: Jen Primack, Christy McGuire

and “mommy” they could be.

The keynote speaker was Jan Carlino, M.S.Ed. The topic of her address was “Plan Your Life and Create the Work You Love.” This discussion included life and career planning, focusing, and gaining clarity for goals in the future. This was followed by five mom-lead workshops in various fields, including health, nutrition, relaxation, and spirituality. The sixth and final

presentation was given by Primack. Her session was media literacy, entitled “Snap, Crackle, and Pop” and it dealt with helping “our families become more media literate.”

Food, beverages, and snacks were provided by The Bagel Factory, Gluuteny, and the Health Hut. There were also door prizes from many places, including The Purple Frog and Contemporary Concepts. Every “mommy” at the conference received a chair massage from Massage Envy and a three-course lunch at John Harvard’s restaurant. Fathers and kids were invited to participate in a “day camp” in a park for the day while mothers were at the conference.

The Mommy Conference was a great success, attracting both working and stay-at-home mothers with ages ranging from 28 to 65 (Primack’s mother).

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Spring 2009



Registration Begins.....	Monday October 27, 2008
Classes Begin.....	Monday January 12, 2009
Spring Break.....	Monday March 2 thru Sunday March 8, 2009
Classes End.....	Monday April 27, 2009
Final Exams.....	Tuesday April 28 thru Friday May 1, 2009
ACE Department Commencement.....	Friday May 1, 2009
University Commencement.....	Sunday May 3, 2009



What's Happening?

*ACE and AECT
Graduates and Students
are doing big things*



Stephanie Webb-Phillips (AECT '04) is the proud mother of a baby boy. Eron Jaron Phillips was born on April 22, 2008.

Stephanie also got married on July 2, 2008.



Tera Bisceglia (AECT '06) relocated to Minneapolis, MN to work as a Telemarketing Training Specialist for CPP North

America, LLC. She works with the marketing department to conduct training at various contracted vendor sites that handle the telemarketing aspect of the company.



J.W. Tabacchi (ACE '08) is currently working as the Campus Activities Coordinator for Point Park University in

Pittsburgh, PA. In this position, he assists the Director of Campus Life in programming activities and advising their on-campus student organizations. One of his responsibilities is managing the federal work studies and apprentices for his department, and working with them to promote their student activities. He has also had the opportunity to create publications and promotion materials for events.



Dan Allen (AECT '07) is a self-employed Consultant (Multimedia and Content Developer)

doing outsource work for the learning technologies department of a hospital group in Maryland.



Will Radell (AECT '01) got a job at Indiana University Northwest in Gary, IN as an Instructional Technology

Specialist. IUN is a branch campus of Indiana University at Bloomington.

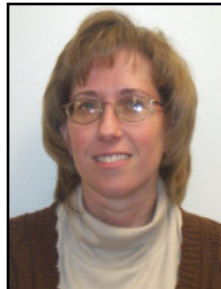


Andrea Sheperd (ACE '07), now Andrea Allen got married in September of 2007.



Jacquilyn Griffin (ACE '99) who earned her doctorate in 2007 accepted a job teaching for the Human Development and

Environmental Studies.



Karen Posa (ACE '01) is now on the Board of Directors for the International Mentoring Association. She is also currently

working on her doctoral degree.

The ACE and AECT departments would like to encourage alumni and current students to share 'what's happening' with them. All correspondence should go to Dr. Gary Dean at gjdean@iup.edu.



What's Happening? (continued)



Brenda Howard
(ACE '07)
received a job
at the Moffitt
Cancer Center
in Tampa,
FL working
as a Nurse

Education Specialist.



**Christine
(Vucinich)
Quinones**
(AECT '99)
has been
appointed to
the Special
Interest

Group on University and
College Computing Services
(SIGUCCS) Board as the
Marketing and Membership
Chair. She will work with
a committee to promote
internally & externally
the benefits of being a
SIGUCCS member. Christine
is Technical Education &
Outreach Coordinator at
Duke University's Office of
Information Technology.

Award Winners

Three students were honored at the May, 2008 graduation ceremony.



Sean Howard was recognized as the Margaret Mahler Outstanding Student in Adult and Community Education. Sean worked as a peace corps volunteer in Niger, Africa. In addition, Sean was a community volunteer with Friends of White's Woods (FWW), a local organization that was formed to protect White's Woods from a timbering plan.



Patty Webb was given the Margaret Mahler Outstanding Research award for her research project, "Learning to Listen: A Preliminary Qualitative Study of how Adults Become More Helpful Listeners." Patty also presented her paper, "A Case Study in Transformative Learning Through the Exploration of Narrative Film Art" at the Eighth Pennsylvania Adult and Continuing Education Research Conference (PA-

ACERC), The Pennsylvania State University-Harrisburg, PA. Patty is currently a Ph.D candidate in the Adult Education Program at Penn State.



Brian Scarpiniti received the Klingensmith award for Excellence in Communications Technology. Brian was a full time student and worked as Dr. Kurt Dudd's graduate assistant. Throughout his undergraduate and graduate career he was always focused on Digital Imaging/Graphic Design and Photography. Brian is currently working as a faculty member in the Communications Media Department at IUP. He plans

on getting his Ph.D in the future, but for now he is enjoying being an instructor at IUP and gaining teaching experience.



Check out the 9th Pennsylvania Adult and Continuing Education Research Conference (PA-ACERC)

The 9th PA-ACERC Conference will be held on February 13th, 2009 in Hershey, PA, in conjunction with the annual Pennsylvania Association for Adult Continuing Education (PAACE) Midwinter Conference. This conference showcases current research specifically designed for graduate students, alumni, and professionals in the field. For more information, please contact Dr. Gary Dean at gjdean@iup.edu



Mommy Conference (cont. from Page 4)

“The feedback was overwhelmingly positive” said Primack. She also said that “professionally, the Mommy Conference has given me the opportunity to use my training from the ACE program. It has been wonderful to watch theory turn into practice.”

Primack has also had personal gain from the conference.

“The Mommy Conference enabled me to meet new people, interact in a whole new way with my mommy friends and help me realize that I can still put together a high quality conference even after being a stay-at-home-mom for four years,” she said.

Dr. Gary Dean gives Jen and the Mommy Conference high regards.



“The conference was a great opportunity for women to grow as mothers and as individuals,” Dean said. “Jen showed remarkable innovation and ability in creating and conducting this conference.”

When asked if she would repeat the conference, Primack’s response

was “Yes, yes, yes!” She is already working on the next conference with new ideas and workshops. Primack is also grateful to IUP and Drs. Dean and Ritchey. “IUP opened their beautiful facility to us and Drs. Dean and Ritchey staffed the event on a Sunday when they could have been home with their families,” she said. “I really appreciate their confidence in me and support of the conference.”

Please contact Jen Primack at jenprimack@yahoo.com for details about the 2009 conference.

Stellar Summer for Marie Stewart

Current student, Marie Stewart has been in the ACE program at the IUP Monroeville campus since the Fall of 2005.

“My particular interest is in curriculum, reviewing, designing and implementing,” she said. “In fact, I strongly believe that every course I have attended has assisted me in fulfilling my goal as a curriculum specialist.”

She had been working as Assistant Director of Curriculum Design at Newport Business Institute’s Lower Burrell Campus. This summer Stewart received two promotions at NBI-she was promoted to the Assistant Director



of the school and to the Director of Curriculum.

In addition to these duties, Stewart said, “I carry a full five course load of instruction which include core and advance level computer classes in the Microsoft Office Suite, Accounting, payroll, Peachtree, and Quick Books.”

Also, Stewart successfully completed and received approval from both the PA department of Education and ACICS Accreditation Council for NBI Williamsport Campus to offer the first online program, which was available on August 1, 2008. She has also been made the Online Program Director.

In regards to the ACE program, Stewart said, “My success is due to both Dr. Ritchey and Dr. Dean and the courses designed in the ACE program. Both Dr. Dean and Dr. Ritchey will always be a large part of my success, including modeling Dr. Dean in my deliverance of classroom materials”.



**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN ADULT AND
CONTINUING EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY
2008-2009**

American Association for Adult and Continuing Education (AAACE)

Denver, CO November 11-14, 2008
<http://www.aaace.org>

44th Annual Pennsylvania Association for Adult Continuing Education Midwinter Conference (PAACE)

Hershey, PA February 11-13, 2009
<http://www.paacesite.org/>

9th Pennsylvania Adult and Continuing Education Research Conference (PA-ACERC)

Hershey, PA February 13, 2009
 In conjunction the PAACE Midwinter Conference
 Please email gjdean@iup.edu for more information

20th Annual Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education Conference (SITE)

Charleston, SC March 2-6, 2009
<http://site.aace.org/conf/>

50th Annual Adult Education Research Conference (AERC)

National Louis University- Chicago, IL May 29-30, 2009
<http://www.adulterc.org/>

39th Annual Standing Conference on University Teaching and Research in the Education of Adults (SCUTREA)

Downing College- Cambridge, England July 7-9, 2009
<http://www.scutrea.ac.uk/>

The Communicator is published by the Department of Adult and Community Education, 104 Davis Hall, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA 15705. Phone: (724) 357-2470; FAX: (724) 357-3085; Email: gjdean@iup.edu or jritchey@iup.edu. Department websites: www.iup.edu/ace & www.iup.edu/aect

Faculty

Dennis Ausel, Gary Dean, Kurt Dudd, Erik Lauber, Jim Lenze, Allen Partridge, Jeff Ritchey.

Graduate Assistants

Nicky Allison, Ryan Boring, Adam Borodach, Sarah Lydic, Yuchi Ma, Vicki McCurdy (newsletter editor), Leighton Noone, Maryam Tbayshat



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Davis Hall, Room 104
 570 South Eleventh Street
 Indiana, PA 15705-1050
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