

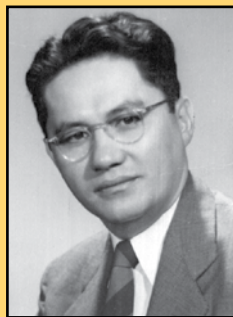
## Remarkable Firsts

### Rehabilitation Counseling Program Locus of Firsts

It's been 50 illustrious years since Prof. **John Muthard** established the UI Rehabilitation Counseling Program, the first west of the Mississippi River.

The program's other firsts include:

- **John Muthard** and **Paul Salomone** (MA '62/PhD '68) author first role and function studies and begin the line of research that defines the profession.
- **Marceline Jaques** (MA '46/PhD '59) becomes nation's first woman to receive a doctoral degree in Rehabilitation Counselor Education.
- **C. Esco Obermann** (BA '27/MA '31/PhD '38) chairs the National Rehabilitation Counseling Association's Ethics Committee, writing the profession's first code of ethics.
- In 2003, the program establishes nation's first student chapter of the American Rehabilitation Counseling Association.
- Professor **Vilia Tarvydas** chairs the committee that created the first unified Code of Professional Ethics for Rehabilitation Counselors in 1992, and its revisions in 2001 and 2007. As one of The American Association of State Counseling Boards founding members, she is the first rehabilitation counselor to be elected president elect of the organization.



Prof. John E. Muthard

Kent Photographic Collections, Special Collections, University of Iowa Library

- Program receives the American Rehabilitation Counseling Association's 1997 President's Award for Exemplary Education Programs.
- Since 2000, program ranks third in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report* and *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.

Tarvydas said she's proud of the long history of faculty and graduates holding leadership positions in professional organizations.

"The record we have of providing leadership to the rehabilitation counseling profession is unequalled by other programs," she said. "Our faculty, graduates, and students have been presidents and chairs of the major professional organizations and credentialing bodies over the years in most impressive numbers. As a result, we are seen as a locus of leadership and innovation in the field."

#### Plan to Attend the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

On Friday, April 27, the Rehabilitation Counseling program will host a Spring Colloquium, Awards, and Gala Reunion Reception in honor of its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Activities will take place at the Old Capitol and include a keynote address from Peter R. Teahen, media spokesperson for the American Red Cross.

The afternoon begins with guided tours of the Old Capitol from 12 to 2 p.m. Awards and speakers follow from 2 to 4:30. The event ends with a reunion reception until 7 p.m.

### Connecting College, Campus, Community through Art

Using feathers, googly eyes, jewels, and beads, fifth graders in **Amy Wunder's** (MA '04) Lucas Elementary art class transformed blobs of colored clay into unique puppet characters.

Dan Heick made an alien with a red rectangular head and 10 eyes. Jade Gravelin made a replica of her hamster, Missy. Luke Posivio made Theodore Roosevelt complete with a handlebar mustache and silver glasses frames.

The puppet making was one part of an elaborate collaboration between the College of Education, Hancher Auditorium, the UI Center for Teaching, and Iowa City schools.

The collaboration began with Joseph Cashore, a marionette virtuoso and artist in residence. Nearly 1,200 fifth and sixth graders from 13 local elementary schools were then invited to a performance of Cashore's "Simple Gifts," a show that displays the art of puppetry as well as explores many emotional subjects.

Art Education Associate Professor **Rachel Williams** and Counselor Education Associate Professor **Tarrell Portman** and more than 25 counseling and art education graduate students worked with Iowa City art teachers and guidance counselors on creating



Children learn valuable lessons through puppet making project.

curricula to incorporate both the puppet making and the emotional content of "Simple Gifts" into their classrooms after the performance.

Portman said her counseling students created a unit based upon several "gifts."

"Lessons included the gift of self expression, the gift of self-control, the gift of goal setting, and the gift of empathy," she said. "I hope this project helps the many children who saw the Cashore performances embrace the gifts they give to themselves and to others."

Art teachers learned to make their own marionettes in a series of in-service meetings with Williams and her students.

Wunder, who is currently working on her Ph.D. in Art Education, said she had never made puppets before with her students and has enjoyed the experience. "It's been an inspiration to watch the marionettes, participate in the in-service, and learn what other art teachers accomplish," she said.

The project doesn't stop in Iowa City. Cashore will use Portman's and Williams' curricula when he performs for other school children throughout the country.

## Remarkable Outreach



Wunder incorporates puppet making with emotional content in her art classes.

## Remarkable Outreach

### Testing Focus of Leadership Symposium



**N**o Child Left Behind has raised the stakes on standardized tests, like the Iowa Testing Program's *Iowa Test of Basic Skills* (ITBS) and *Iowa Test of Educational Development* (ITED).

Testing leaders from The University of Iowa College of Education led a day-long symposium titled, "Reasonable Responses to No Child Left Behind: Education and Assessment in Iowa," supported by the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust. Some 130 area educators attended.

Professor **Stephen Dunbar**, director of the Iowa Testing Programs, said Iowa's response to *No Child Left Behind* has changed over time from one of maintaining local control to looking more to the federal model.

"No Child Left Behind has challenged us," he said. "It has dra-

matically changed the way test results are used for school policy. The challenge is facing this reality of accountability while at the same time using some of these tests to improve learning."

Other speakers at the symposium were Associate Professor **Timothy Ansley** who shared plans for end-of-course tests for high schools, Professor **David Lohman** who addressed ways in which the Cognitive Abilities Test can help educators achieve *No Child Left Behind* goals, Assistant Professor **Andrew Ho** who spoke on trends in score reporting, and Assistant Professor **Liz Hollingworth** who addressed preparing for standardized tests without sacrificing best practices.

Among attendees was David Christensen, curriculum director for the Mount Pleasant school district. He said he found the symposium topic important and was glad to discuss assessment in the *No Child Left Behind* era.

"You want to hold conversations about what matters and not about trends," he said, "which has been a challenge with all of the focus on compliance."

### College's Technologies and Student Teacher Big Hit on Capitol Hill

**T**here were a lot of "oohs" and "aahs" at the Iowa State Capitol last month when **Jim Stachowiak** demonstrated assistive technologies available through the College's Iowa Center for Assistive Technology Education and Research (ICATER).

Stachowiak, ICATER's coordinator, was among a handful of College faculty, staff, and students who provided Iowa's legislators with the opportunity to discuss innovations and Teacher Education.

"The legislators were amazed with the technologies showcased and impressed with what The University of Iowa is doing to help students with disabilities across the state by educating teachers on assistive technology," he said. "Our program distinguishes itself by teaching assistive technology, and readying future educators for the challenges of working with a student with disabilities."

Teacher Education student teacher **Laura Widness** also

drew a large crowd of legislators due to the state Senate's vote to raise Iowa teachers' pay from 40th in the country to 25th by 2008.

Widness, a student teacher at Clive Elementary School, said that while the most rewarding thing about teaching is the classroom community, salary is important.

"Other states are recruiting heavily so, to see the bill pass yesterday was exciting," she said. "It will help keep Iowa grads in the state."



ICATER's Coordinator Jim Stachowiak (L) demonstrates assistive technology to Rep. Tyler Olson.



Rep. Todd Taylor (L) discusses Iowa teachers' needs with student teacher Laura Widness.

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