

AlumNews

A newsletter for Alumni & Friends of Higher Education & Student Affairs

Fall 2011

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Dear SDP/SAAR/Higher Ed Alumni & Friends:

By the time this reaches you, your academic term will be well under way and winter may be knocking at your door. At home we are clearing the weeds and foliage from the garden and planning for the coming year: Should we move that hosta? Should the coneflower go to seed so the birds can feed this winter? What color bulbs should we plant this fall so that we can enjoy them next spring?

Gardening, like education, is an eternal act of hope. We plan, we plant the seed, we cultivate the potential, we watch for — with great anticipation — the bloom.

Education seems the essence of hope!

I am happy to bring you news from the Higher Education & Student Affairs Program. As alumni, it may take a while to get used to the idea that the program from which you graduated exists in a different way — but the faculty are quite excited about the developments in the new program. Our applications are up, culminating in a record number of M.A. students from all corners of the country. In fact, HESA has the largest graduate enrollment in the College. Assistantship support outside the College has reached nearly \$1,000,000 this year, and our partnerships are stronger than ever.

But this fall newsletter is a chance to shine the spotlight on YOU. Our alumni roster from the SDP and the HiEd programs number over 1,100 — as such, there is plenty of news to share about your promotions and passages. Our spring edition of the newsletter will focus on campus news.

Finally, I want to share a big shout out to Jeremy Reed and Kira Pasquesi, our Program Graduate Assistants, for shepherding this newsletter as well as other program initiatives this fall.

WE ARE ON THE MOVE! Let's stay in touch as we go forward!

Warmest regards,

Deb Liddell
HESA Program Coordinator



**Looking to stay in touch?
Friend us. Email us.
Visit the
HESA website.**



Congratulations to Distinguished Alumnus George Kuh



Congratulations to Dr. George D. Kuh, (Ph.D., Student Development in Postsecondary Education, 1975), recipient of the 2012 Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award. As the University of Iowa Alumni Association's highest honor, the award "is granted to graduates or former students for significant accomplishments in business or professional life or for distinguished human service to their community, state, or nation."

In the words of one nominator, George Kuh "has changed the landscape of American higher education for the better." Another nominator noted, "We have yet to understand the full reach of his work, but I can think of no individual in American higher education who has had a comparable, sustainable impact." Congratulations, George, from your HESA community.

We are proud to call you a Hawkeye.

An Interview with Dr. George Kuh by Elizabeth Jach (MA, '12)

Dr. George Kuh gave a keynote address at the Iowa Student Personnel Association (ISPA) Conference on October 7th. Prior to ISPA, Dr. Kuh was interviewed over the phone by Elizabeth Jach, current MA student in Higher Education and Student Affairs.

When asked if I would be interested in interviewing Dr. George Kuh, I positively jumped at the chance. The founding director of the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) and the current director of both the National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment (NILOA) and the Strategic National Arts Alumni Project (SNAPP), George Kuh has authored more than 300 publications.

The keynote address at ISPA is just one of the hundreds of presentations Dr. Kuh has given. I asked him what advice he had for new professionals looking to get more experience presenting. Dr. Kuh pointed out that there are no shortage of topics within the field of higher education and student affairs; find something to talk about, and don't worry about whether the topic will be interesting to others as long as it is of interest to the presenter. Furthermore, since our field often has few replication studies- "it bedevils us when new findings occur," laughed Dr. Kuh. A fresh look at a topic is useful for the individual as well as the field, he said. Dr. Kuh's advice also included starting local: present for a group of fellow students or colleague and ask for feedback.

Next, I asked Dr. Kuh how his experiences with NSSE have changed over the years. Dr. Kuh reminisced about his ten-year run with the project, recalling that "we had no idea what it could be, but we knew what we wanted it to be." He emphasized how lucky he was to collaborate with brilliant, pleasant colleagues. A graduate student, John Hayek, persuaded Dr. Kuh to take a more entrepreneurial approach with marketing NSSE. Bill Tyson, from a small media consulting firm in New Hampshire, arranged opportunities to publish blurbs about NSSE in major papers such as USA Today and the New York Times. Dr. Kuh reflected on how his role changed from an insider on the project to serving as an external liaison. In a presentation about NSSE to the Secretariat of the American Council on Education (ACE), the executive director of the Association of American Law Schools approached Dr. Kuh after his presentation and asked if the survey could work for law students.

Similarly, other versions took off from responding to feedback, such as a version for faculty members instigated by a user from Texas State University. Dr. Kuh also pointed out that one of the major problems with research in higher education is the "near disinterest in the end-user." NSSE caters directly to the end-user, said Dr. Kuh, and provides a prompt for professionals to discuss what's going on at their institutions.



Current students at ISPA with Kuh after keynote address

When I asked Dr. Kuh about how his work has influenced his leadership on the Board of Regents at Luther College, he joked that out of the “three Ts” (time, talent, and treasure) expected of governing board members, he can offer more of the first two. Dr. Kuh chairs the committee on student learning and campus life, an unusual pairing for a board of regents committee. He enjoys working toward bridging the gap between academic affairs and student affairs, a process as challenging at a small school as at a larger institution.

Dr. Kuh has officially retired from teaching, so I asked him how his life has changed since leaving the

classroom. “Well,” he said with a pause, “teaching was the hardest thing I ever did.” He went on to explain how really retirement is a misnomer- “the amount of time I devote to my professional interests hasn’t changed much at all,” he says. While Dr. Kuh had “plenty of autonomy the past twelve to fifteen years,” he has even more autonomy with no teaching requirements and often travels to give a talk, visit a campus, or attend a meeting every week, if not twice a week. He also spends less of his time writing and supervising, and more of his time managing projects. “Do you have kids?” Dr. Kuh asks me. “No,” I answer, surprised by this question. He asked because he calls NILOA and SNAPP his “two toddler projects that have just recently been... what’s the term I want... house broken?” he asks. “Do you mean potty-trained?” “Yes, that’s it,” he laughs. Dr. Kuh explains that NILOA and SNAPP require time in determining how to respond to rolling with the punches, part of the process with gaining momentum in a new project.

Dr. Kuh said he has many favorite memories of Iowa City. His son was born in Iowa City and many great friendships started in Iowa City through his doctoral program, including relationships with Iowa program legends such as Al Hood and Carney Strange. Dr. Kuh goes on to describe the camaraderie he experienced among fellow graduate students- remembering a course on experimental design, he recalls “it was very challenging – none of my peers was really sure about what was going on in that class!” Dr. Kuh describes a local tavern he and his colleagues frequented, “it was really a dump- George’s Buffet; surely they’ve remodeled by now?” I assure him that I have been there, and they surely have not remodeled since the mid-1970’s. Dr. Kuh starts to tell me something, and then stops- saying, “If we’re together sometime, I’ll tell ya.” Next time I see him, I’ll definitely have more questions.



Grow the Investment in Your Degree

The HESA Foundation account provides support for campus speakers, student travel, and alumni events. Make your tax-deductible gift online at www.givetoioowa.org/education and be sure to designate the Higher Education & Student Affairs Program (account #30-350-051) as your beneficiary. Thank you for your generous support!

Confessions of a First-year Hall Director by Kelly Giese (MA, '11)

If my pre-grad school self could see me now, I'm sure she'd be shocked: Never in a million years would I have seen myself living in a residence hall at age 24, sharing my home with 200 undergraduates. However, during my first few months as a live-in staff member at SUNY Oswego, I've learned that any inconveniences of living-in are paid back when I see my students learn, develop, and grow in their new home.

When I started graduate school at The University of Iowa in 2009, I swore that I would never work in Residence Life. To me, hall directors were crazy people, always excited – even at 3 a.m. on a Saturday morning. Why anyone would want to be in a position that requires them to work at 3 a.m. on a Saturday morning was beyond me.

Although I had my heart set on academic advising when I started my master's, I landed an assistantship with the Women in Science and Engineering Living Learning Community. This position connected me with residence life staff at Iowa, and I learned that working with students where they live can be an incredibly rewarding experience. I also was fortunate to find some great mentors at Coe College, the site of my first practicum in Residence Life. Between WISE and my practicum at Coe, I couldn't think of a post-grad school plan that didn't include living-in.

After graduation, I packed up my old, green Saturn and moved to Oswego, New York to become a Residence Hall Director at SUNY Oswego. It's been a bit of an adjustment transitioning into my new position, and I'd be lying if I said that every day is perfect. Just like any job, there are highs and lows in my days and weeks.

I recently dealt with my first crisis situation as a live-in staff member. One of my residents was tossing a football in the hallway and knocked off a sprinkler head. An entire wing of the residence hall flooded with more than an inch of water, some of which made its way down to my basement apartment. Police, firefighters, maintenance, and the Director of Residence Life & Housing were all in my building, looking to me for information. In the end, facilities cut power to the floor and I had to find a place to put 29 residents for the night. Not exactly the way I had planned to spend my evening.

But I'd also be lying if I said I didn't love this job. Yes, I have a meal plan. Yes, I occasionally need to deal with vomit in a public restroom. And, yes, I'm on-call five nights a week. But what other job lets you talk Chickering, circuit breakers, and condoms – all in the same day?

And, despite the drama, it's safe to say that the flood has been my favorite experience as a hall director so far. My colleagues helped me find rooms in their buildings to put my displaced residents; one coworker even rescued my belongings. The residents took care of each other even though they had only known each other for three weeks.

Many students on campus learned a few valuable lessons from that night: This is why we don't allow hall sports. This is also why you should always have renters' insurance. I also learned a few valuable lessons about myself that night: I'm calm in stressful situations; I have the ability to "roll with it" when I need to; and, most importantly, that I actually can do this job.



Confessions of a Residential Life Couple

by Matt Augeri (MA, '11) & Erika Christiansen (MA, '11)

Sunday morning, a day to sleep in and relax before the start of another work week. Yet by 9am the iPhones have already been pulled from their chargers so that the news from the past night can be absorbed. E-mails are read and responded to even before getting up. Then, just when we are about to get on with our day, a knock at the door interrupts us. It's a student. "Is Erika home?"

Welcome to the life of a live-in student affairs couple. Erika is the Hall Coordinator for Schurz Hall, the Honors Residence Hall at the University of Missouri or "Mizzou" for short. Schurz is the largest hall on campus at the University of Missouri, with an occupancy of 520 and sixteen student staff members.

Matt job searched for the first two months after we arrived and is now an Academic Advisor in the School of Health Professions at Mizzou. The Student Staff in Schurz Hall gave Matt the official title of the "Schurz housewife" since he cooked and baked during summer training. They loved him immediately.

Moving to Mizzou was a transition. Erika lived in a house in Iowa City for five years, and Matt lived in a spacious apartment during graduate school. A packed 14-foot U-Haul later, and we arrived at our new home. Let's just say that while there is very little closet space, there is plenty of university provided flame resistant furniture.

The new stomping grounds are all in walking distance. That's a perk of living on campus in a residence hall. On the other hand, our students always seem to know when we are home, and where we go. Our sense of privacy is completely gone, and while we can sometimes get away for a weekend, it is rarely a simple process.

We are down to one car because after going straight from undergrad to graduate school we need to save some money. Luckily Erika's office is across the residence hall lobby and Matt's commute is a walk across campus. We would like to think we are being environmentally friendly too.

Learning about Columbia, Missouri and the students who attend Mizzou has been a new challenge for both of us. We try to see different parts of the city and the University to understand the traditions of Mizzou. It's difficult though, to embrace this new culture while our experiences at Iowa are so fresh in our minds. The chance to start at a new institution that is so student centered has been beneficial for both of us though. We are more connected to the students and professional staff members through the various activities on campus.

The chance to live in a residence hall for the first time as new professionals has been both enlightening and taxing. At the end of the day we love what we do and are happy with our choices. Even with the knocks at the door...

create [possibilities]

SAVE THE DATE: The Iowa Alumni & Friends reception is scheduled for **Monday, March 26th at 5:00 pm**. It will be held at Patrick O'Shea's, a local venue within walking distance of the convention center. Stay tuned for details.

ACPA Annual Convention
Louisville, KY
March 24-28, 2012

AlumUpdates through the Decades

1970s

Patricia Doherty (PhD, '79) is beginning her 33rd year at the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point Counseling Center. She continues to enjoy working with students, but retirement has begun to look appealing.

1980s

Janet Alleman (MA, '80) received the National Council for Social Studies (NCSS) Jean Dresden Grambs Distinguished Career Research Award on November 13, 2010. She also recently published two books, one co-authored with Jere Brophy and Barbara Knighton, entitled "A Learning Community in the Primary Classroom." It is a detailed description and analysis of exemplary teaching in the primary grades published by Routledge. The other book is entitled "Homework Done Right" and is co-authored with Jere Brophy and four classroom teachers (Knighton, Ley, Botwinski, and Middlestead) published by Corwin. "Homework Done Right" has been recognized by the Association of Educational Publishers (AEP) as one of the four best books this year in the Professional Development Instruction Category.

Will Barratt (PhD, '83) has a new book out "Social Class on Campus" through Stylus Publications. He regularly conducts campus lectures and student affairs staff training on this topic at different campuses. This summer he presented at two international conferences in Thailand on Sustainability in Higher Education and on the Education beyond 2020. Along with his research partner, Dr. Mark Frederick, he was given the Laurel Wreath Award by the North American Interfraternity Council for their work with the University Learning Outcomes Assessment (UniLOA) which is now being used by many fraternities, sororities, and campuses. According to Will, he is "thankful for the education I got at Iowa every time I work on research and assessment, and every time I teach anything about student affairs. While the expiration date has passed on much of what I learned as a Doc student, the learning and discussion process has stayed with me whatever I do."

From student development theory to Hollywood! **Robert Stein** (MA, '86) retired Colonel from the U.S. Air Force, has authored a multitude of novels and screenplays. Robert, along with friend and co-writer Patrick Hoeft, is a script adviser for "Two Lives to Save," a screenplay that's being made into a motion picture. Another script adapted from his novel, "The Black Samaritan," is currently under review with producer Jerry Bruckheimer. Robert and Patrick adapted another script for "The Ironman" showcasing Nile Kinnick and the 1939 Hawkeye Football team from Tom Lidd's nonfiction novel "Nile." It's also under review by Hollywood elites such as Clint Eastwood and Tom Brokaw. For more information on his current and past works, check out the [Iowa Artist Directory](#).



Kate Haugen (MA, '88), Associate Vice President for Student Affairs at North Dakota State University, was honored as a Woman of the Year recipient at the YWCA annual event April 4, 2011. Kate received the Lifetime Achievement – Florence Reed Owens Award, which recognizes a woman who has demonstrated a long-term commitment to equality, empowering women and girls and/or eliminating racism. According to her nominators, Kate's career represents years of dedication to relational leadership. She is known as a consensus builder who leads by inclusion. Her career achievements include numerous conference presentations, publications and keynote addresses. Her leadership role on several university committees allows her to influence important university decisions for the benefit of students, with particular attention to those from under-represented groups.

1990s

Eric Craver (MA, '91) serves as Director of External Relations for the Division of Outreach and Adult Access at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. This year marks 20 years for Eric (post master's work) serving in higher education. He credits mentors such as Al Hood, Hal Engen, and Bob Engel for providing him with the tools necessary to succeed in the field of higher education. He is extremely proud of his degrees from the University of Iowa and the College of Education.

Patrick Muller (MA, '95) offered a program on his hand-painted porcelain "Supper Time" plates at Plum Grove in Iowa City this fall. He presented a paper titled "The 21st-Century relevance of Comenius" at the 28th International Comeniological Colloquium in Uhersky Brod, Czech Republic on October 13, 2011.

Tracy Davis (PhD, '97) received a \$20,000 Verizon Foundation Domestic Violence Prevention Competitive Grant for the newly established Center for the Study of Masculinities and Men's Development at Western Illinois University where he serves as Director. Also, his most recent book, "Masculinities in Higher Education: Theoretical and Practical Considerations" was published by Routledge in April 2011.

2000s

Kristi Leonard (MA '00) continues to serve as the Wellness Department Chair at Waldorf College in Forest City, IA, and earned tenure and the subsequent title of Associate Professor of Wellness in May 2011. Her department at Waldorf recently earned the National Wellness Institute's Distinguished Academic Program Award. She also became A.B.D. in the University of Northern Iowa's Community Health Education doctoral program.

Kelly (Behmer) Neumann (MA, '01) is now the Campus Recruiting Manager for Pricewaterhouse Coopers Milwaukee working with Marquette and University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee and Madison.

Ellen Sunshine (MA, '01) is the new Coordinator of Pre Major Advising in the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Minnesota. This involves planning orientation, Welcome Week activities, advising pre major students, supervising the undeclared advising team, and working with faculty on the First Year Experience program.

Laura Guthrie Eads (MA, '02) served as the Interim Director of The Office of Student Ethics at Indiana University Bloomington. She was also promoted to Associate Director of Student Support Programs & Conduct at Indiana University where she oversees diversity programs, student leadership, and student conduct. Her son Owen (pictured right) turned one this year.

Emily (Villhauer) Lee (MA, '05) and her husband, Michael, welcomed a daughter, Magnolia Suzanna, in September 2010. The family lives in Peoria, IL, and Emily continues to serve as the Director of Career Services at Eureka College



Erica Geers (MA, '06) began a new position as Assistant Director of Residence Life for College-in-the-Woods at Binghamton University. She lives in Endicott, NY with her new husband and Great Dane puppy, Zoe. They were married in Iowa last month.

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Tricia Seifert (PhD '06) is in her third year as an Assistant Professor in the Theory and Policy Studies department at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto. She recently received grants from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council and the University of Toronto's Connaught New Researcher program for her study titled "Supporting Student Success: Organizational Structure and Approaches of Student Affairs and Services in Ontario's Postsecondary Institutions." Tricia also edited a volume for *New Directions in Institutional, Longitudinal Assessment for Institutional Improvement*.

Sara Stahlman (MA, '07) co-authored an internal ACPA publication, "Alcohol Mixed with High Levels of Caffeine: What Campus Professionals Need to Know." She and her partner Rob look forward to expanding their family this winter.



Brooke Paulsen (MA, '07) is now the TRIO Counseling Specialist with TRIO Student Support Services and the Center for Diversity & Enrichment at the University of Iowa. She is active with the IA-MAEOPP professional organization of TRIO professionals within the state of Iowa as the Alumni Committee Chair. In December 2010, Brooke and her husband welcomed their first child into the world. Connor David (pictured left) loves to cheer on the Hawkeyes.

Dave Merry (MA, '07) is the Cooperative Education Coordinator at Northeastern University where he teaches professional development courses and places students in co-op positions.

Samantha DeVilbiss (MA, '09) is getting married to Chris Kakert in July. The two are pictured below during their engagement trip.

Noel Harmon (PhD, '09) works as a Senior Research Analyst for the Institute for Higher Education Policy in Washington D.C. IHEP is an independent, nonprofit organization that is dedicated to access and success in postsecondary education around the world. Noel also teaches a multicultural course at The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Programs.

Michael Hevel (PhD, '11) is the 2011-2012 Visiting Assistant Professor for the HESA program.

Mary van Andel (MA, '11) is moving with her family to Switzerland in January 2012. She and her husband are expecting another child in November.

Julie (Pollock) Goepferd (MA, '11) was married on October 1, 2011. She now works at University of Minnesota in the College of Science and Engineering as an Academic Advisor.

Luisa Orticelli (MA, '11) is a Program Coordinator at San Diego State University in charge of the new international student orientation and advising students and international student organizations.

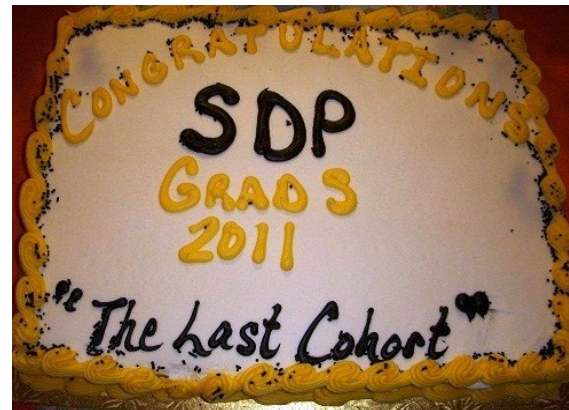


Kathy Goodman (PhD, '11) is in her first year as an Assistant Professor in the Student Affairs in Higher Education program at Miami University. This year she is teaching Quantitative Methods in Higher Education, Research Foundations in Higher Education, and a doctoral seminar on Higher Education Learning Contexts.

Georgianna Martin (ABD) is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Higher Education Program at Loyola University Chicago where she teaches courses on American college students and their environments, university organization and governance, and internship field experiences. She continues to work on research projects with the Wabash National Study and is currently planning the next iteration of her research on low-income, first-generation college students.

Recruitment Nominations

Do you know of an outstanding candidate for the HESA program? **The application deadline for Ph.D. admissions is January 1, 2012 and the M.A. deadline is February 1, 2012.** Please submit names of nominees using our [online form](#). If you have any questions please e-mail [Kira Pasquesi](#) for Ph.D. recruitment or [Jeremy Reed](#) for M.A. recruitment.



Andy Borst (PhD, HiEd)
Curt Graff (PhD, HiEd)
Megan Johnson (PhD, HiEd)
Maria Teresita Barker (PhD, HiEd)
Mark Salisbury (PhD, HiEd)
Michael Hevel (PhD, HiEd)
Ryan Padgett (PhD, HiEd)
David Keller (PhD, HiEd)
Kem Saichaie (PhD, HiEd)
Kathleen Goodman (PhD, SAAR)
Matt Augeri (MA, SDP)
Misty Brents (MA, SDP)
Erika Christiansen (MA, SDP)
Brittan Etzenhouser (MA, SDP)
Suzanne Wisslead (MA, SDP)
Kelly Giese (MA, SDP)
Carrie Graves (MA, SDP)
Luisa Orticelli (MA, SDP)
Julie Goepferd (MA, SDP)
Mary van Andel (MA, SDP)
Jacquelyn Meirick (MA, HiEd)
Wendy Han (MA, HiEd)
Rubina Halwani (MA, HiEd)



2011 SDP graduates