

CAMPUS CONVERSATIONS

March 4, 2009

Highlighting news at Union College

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

◆ The second annual **International Career Fair**, held Feb. 17 in the Don Love Building atrium, was a great success with approximately 100 students attending. There was a wide array of representatives and potential employers for students to meet with more than 20 organization attending the event. Groups included non-governmental organizations, nonprofit organizations, university graduate programs, summer camps, fire and rescue as well as military departments.

Some new organizations this year were the Lincoln Police Department, YMCA, National Outdoor Leadership School, Samaritan's Purse and the General Conference Missions organization. The presenters said they felt very good about being here and many expressed interest in attending again next year.

◆ The **DUI Simulator**, sponsored by Student Services and operated by the PEERS organization from Grand Rapids, Mich., was here on Friday and simulated driving under the influence. The simulation operators determined the amount of alcohol consumed and then programmed the experience for that blood level of alcohol. The simulation included driving through simulated intersections and country roads while experiencing the consequences of inebriation in an actual car using real pedals and a steering wheel. Union had more than 50 students try the simulated driving.

◆ On Feb. 28, the annual **Mr. and Mrs. World Pageant** brought in close to 300 people to Union's gymnasium, with around 100 coming from the local community. Some of the talents demonstrated by the contestants were art, dancing, food preparation, instrumental and singing. For over five years, this event has showcased Union's cultural diversity.

The 2009 Mr. and Mrs. World, **Jonathan Greenberg** and **Rumbi Musvosvi**, came from a group of 10 talented participants. **Carolyn Kitiona** and **Peter Mikhael** were awarded second place. Footage of the entire event can be viewed at uclive.ucollege.edu.

The pageant raised more than **\$1,000 toward the Mission at Malamulo project**, and ended a weeklong awareness campaign that included a muffin sale, film showing, stickered drink bottles, an African dish served in Union Market, a vespers video presentation and a mock Malamulo Hospital set up in the Dick Building lobby.

GOLD STARS

◆ On Feb. 12-13, the **physician assistant program** hosted **Kathy Adamson**, MMS, PA-C, who is external affairs director for the National Commission on the Certification of Physician Assistants, Inc. (NCCPA). The NCCPA is the sole body that grants PA certification across the country, which is required to clinically practice in all 50 state, and selects a few PA programs to visit each year. After meeting with faculty, Kathy gave a presentation to the PA program about current updates on the trends in PA certification.

◆ First-year physician assistant student **Liliana Mugartegui** was selected for the Rio Grande Valley Federation of Women's Clubs Scholarship. Based in Fredericksburg, Texas, the scholarship includes an award of \$2,000 that is renewable for each semester. The funding is awarded to women who are older than the average student and who seek to serve in under-served areas such as the Rio Grande Valley. Candidates must document a history of involvement in student activities, charity work and have a clear professional career goal.

◆ **Linda Becker** was one of two representatives from the Nebraska to the **American Council on Education (ACE) State Networker Conference** in Washington, D.C., Feb. 8. The Office of Women in Higher Education (OWHE) sponsors this yearly conference for state coordinators of the ACE. Linda attended this event as a co-chair of the Nebraska Women in Higher Education. The Saturday night Women's Leadership Dinner featured Wilma Mankiller former Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation. Presentations on Sunday included the main lobbyist for ACE discussing the educational facets of the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

◆ On Feb. 23-24, more than 20 students in the **Ministry Club** attended a two-day retreat and workshop. Themed "Focusing Your Ministry" with presentations by Maurice Valentine, the event began with a soup supper at **Sylvester Case's** house and continued at the Mid-America Union offices.

◆ On Feb. 10 **Linda Becker**, along with fellow co-authors of *The Academic Chair's Handbook*, presented a workshop for new chairs the day preceding the 26th Annual Academic Chairpersons Conference in Orlando, Fla. The workshop titled, "Standing on the Precipice:

Continued on back...

Selecting Strategies for Success and Survival” used elements of the book to assist chairs in developing strategies for success.

CHECK IT OUT

◆ **Dr. Curtis Kuster** from **UNMC Dental College** will be on campus, Thursday, March 5 to talk to students interested in dental hygiene or dentistry. Sign-up in the office of the Division of Science and Mathematics in Jorgensen Hall room 204. Dr. Kuster will host an informational meeting that begins with free food at 6:30 p.m. in Jorgensen Hall, Room 300. If you have questions, see Darla Peterson in the division office.

◆ **Wellness Methods and Management Class** is in the process of planning a **Student Wellness Program** to be implemented next school year. There will be cash prize rewards for creating a logo (\$30) and a slogan (\$20). Logos and slogans may be handdrawn or submitted electronically to Nancy Petta at napetta@ucollege.edu or to Larson Lifestyle Center by Friday, April 10, 5 p.m.

◆ Interested in the environment? Thursday evenings at 5:30 from Feb. 19-April 30, the **biology department** is hosting free **seminars** in Jorgensen Hall, Room 300. Upcoming seminars:

March 5	Kimmy Wills	“Aquatic Contamination from Feed Lots”
March 12	Anibal Santeliz	“Global Warming—It’s Heating Up”
March 24	Rachel Reeve	“Oink, Oink, Piggy, Piggy, in Nebraska”
March 26	Abra Bekker	“Detecting the Deadly”

◆ On Tuesday, March 31, **Dr. Stephen Nyirady** from **Loma Linda University School of Medicine** will be on campus hosting an informational meeting for all students interested in pursuing a career in medicine. The informational meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. in Jorgensen Hall, Room 300, and food will be provided. If you have any questions, see Darla Peterson in the division office.

◆ The library is seeking nominations for 2009 **Library Teacher of the Year**. Faculty, staff, and students may nominate a teacher by submitting the teacher’s name and a short paragraph explaining why they think this individual should be selected to **Sabrina Riley** at sariley@ucollege.edu.

The winning candidate will be chosen by library staff based on the teacher’s collaboration with library staff in support of the library’s collections and services as well as professional use of the library. The winner will receive \$500 spending credit to select new materials for the library collection in a subject area of his or her

choice. Faculty members may nominate themselves. The nomination deadline is March 31.

◆ On March 9 at 8:30 a.m. in Engel Hall room 261, everyone is invited to listen to **South Indian singer Ambika Jayaram**, and participate in a question and answer session following her 30-minute performance. Ambika is one of several special guests who will share music with the World Music class taught by **Dan Lynn**. Past performances include Michael Opku, drummer from Ghana, and Edwin Mukusha, Zimbabwean bagpiper.

◆ Do you have your semi-formal wear ready for Saturday, March 7? The second showing of Union’s spring production, **“The Tempest,”** will be a special **Red Carpet** event. Performances are: March 5, 7 p.m.; March 7, 8 p.m.; March 26, 7 p.m.; March 28, 8:30 p.m.; March 29, 2 p.m.; April 4, 8:30 p.m.

◆ **Chapel Calendar** (Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.)
March 10 **Division of Math and Science**
March 17 Spring Break (No Chapel)
March 24 **ASB Convocation**

MCCLELLAND ART GALLERY

Until March 21, the “Wallflowers” exhibit by junior biology major **Jazmine Martin**, sophomore social work major **Kylie Wilson** and senior chemistry student **Chelsea Steven** will be on display. The exhibit includes sketches, colored pencil artwork and hand-made necklaces.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Previous Question

Q: Who experienced the **Sapporo Yuku Matsuri**, a snow festival on the island of Hokkaido, during a year spent teaching English in Japan?

A: **Theresa Stimson**, assistant professor of nursing

WEB TIP

◆ Check out the revised **Admissions page** on the new Web site and talk to your area content manager about recruiting students through your own department or division page.

Share in the conversation.

Submit information for *Campus Conversations* or other public relations purposes to news@ucollege.edu.

Next Submission Deadline: March 24

Edited by Hannab Adams