

CAMPUS CONVERSATIONS

August 31, 2006

Highlighting news at Union College

PEOPLE PLACEMENTS

- ◆ The following are new to the campus:
 - Ruth Bennett**—cook at Union Market
 - Amy Bolinger**—clinical instructor for nursing program
 - Elina Camarena**—student financial services director
 - Stacy Flores**—physician assistant studies office manager
 - Kyle Martsching**—Teaching Learning Center advisor and academic coach
 - Nicole Meharry**—annual giving director in advancement
 - Lorri Merchant**—associate professor and director of the social work program
 - Salvador Moguel**—associate professor of biology
 - Julie Ramirez**—Career Center office assistant
 - Leah Schaber**—international rescue and relief office assistant
 - Aileen Schuh**—nursing program's office assistant. (Until Schuh graduates in January, **Krissy Ball** will be standing in for her.)
 - Victoria Smith**—associate professor of nursing
 - Richard Young**—enrollment services intern

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Fall enrollment has surpassed expectations with a **student headcount of 982** and a full-time equivalent total of 927.8. This is the highest enrollment for Union since 1983.
- ◆ For the first time, Union College has been ranked in the **top tier of schools** for its category in the *U.S. News America's Best Colleges 2007* issue. Union is ranked as 46th in the Midwest Comprehensive Colleges—Bachelor's category.
- ◆ On Aug. 16, 2006, the students, parents and staff of **George Stone Elementary School** attended the proclamation signing for the **30th anniversary celebration** of the school opening. The group met with **Governor Dave Heineman** in the Warner Chamber at the capitol. Aug. 28, 2006 was proclaimed as George Stone Elementary School Day commemorating its 30th anniversary. Celebration events will continue throughout the school year including a chapel program in November.
- ◆ The Division of Human Development, in collaboration with **Ron Russell**, director of education for the Mid-America Union, sponsored 21 education seniors and recent graduates to attend the **North America Division Teachers Convention** in Nashville, Tenn., Aug. 6–10. Students had the opportunity to hear nationally recognized professionals and choose from 650 breakout sessions. The event was attended by more than 6,000 teachers, administrators and support staff from Canada, Mexico and the United States.
- ◆ **Mike Huckabee** was a speaker at the Okoboji Lakes Bible and Missionary Conference Aug. 7–11. His topic for the daily sessions was "**Biblical Ethics for Today**," and included a discussion of the ethical challenges with advance directives, new medical technologies, parenting and family issues, and the workplace.
- ◆ Plan ahead for **Soup Suppers** scheduled for Friday, Sept. 29, in place of vespers. Faculty can invite students directly or place a sign-up sheet in Campus Ministries. Please help make sure every student has an invitation for the evening.
- ◆ This summer, **Jeff Joiner** coordinated a 12-member medical outreach team for the **Ultimate Workout Mission trip to Peru**. The team included doctors, dentists, nurses, emergency medical personnel and translators and reached more than 1,300 patients. Union students **Kathryn Arnott**, RN, and **Kristi Joiner**, EMT, were members of the team. The Ultimate Workout is a premier short-term mission trip for young people between the ages 14–18. It is sponsored by *Insight* magazine and Piece of the Pie Ministries.
- ◆ Faculty and staff are invited to attend the **third annual CABL Triathlon** on Sunday, Sept. 17. This event will take place at Branched Oak Lake Recreation Area near Raymond, Neb. The race will include a 400-meter swim, 10K bike ride, and 5K run. Sign up in Campus Ministries to participate as a team or individual. A \$10 fee per person is due with a registration form by Friday, Sept. 8. T-shirts will be given to participants and prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate. For additional information, stop by Campus Ministries and or contact **Jocelyn Breuer** at ext. 2508.

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◆ This school year, 25 freshmen joined the **Union Scholars** honors program, a 50 percent increase over previous years. A total of 54 students are enrolled in the Union Scholars program.

FACULTY NOTABLES

◆ **Elizabeth Rodacker-Borgens** has received a 2006 Diversity Research Grant Award. The grant provides \$2,500 to study differences in research abilities in native English speakers and language learners.

◆ At the **North American Division Teachers Convention**, a new book about teachers was unveiled titled *Venues to the Heart*. **Joe Allison** and **Kathy Bollinger** each had stories published in the book. Also, Allison, Bollinger, **Joanne Leung** and **YJ Moses** presented seminars during the convention and **Buell Fogg**, **LuAnn Davis** and **Jacque Smith** represented Union at an exhibit hall booth.

PROJECT IMPACT RESULTS

◆ On Aug. 24, Union College **celebrated 25 years of community service** with the largest Project Impact event to date.

- More than 900 volunteers including students, faculty, staff and participants from George Stone Elementary, College View church and Mid-America Union office employees shared approximately 6,000 hours of service.
- Morning projects included 50 Lincoln agencies and schools.
- Afternoon volunteers hauled away more than 9 tons of brush, litter and abandoned appliances from the Clinton and Hartley neighborhoods.
- From available research, Union's event is the longest-running and largest collegiate volunteer event in the country.

KUDOS

◆ Physician assistant graduate, **Carl Christensen**, is the second author in a research article published in the August 2006 issue of the *Journal of Urology*. The title of the article is "Detectable Prostate Specific Antigen between 60–120 Days Following Radical Prostatectomy for Prostate Cancer: Natural History and Prognostic Significance." Christensen is employed in the Department of Urology at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

◆ A big thanks goes to all staff that **helped move students** into the dorms on Aug. 11 and 13. Parents and students were thankful for the help.

~Janya Mekelburg

YOU ARE INVITED

◆ The **fourth annual Library Fair** is planned for Thursday, Sept. 14, with an open house from 3–7 p.m. This year's theme is "Periodicals at the 24-hour Library." The event will celebrate the summer completion of a more than two-year project: the posting of periodical information from current subscriptions to the online library catalog. The next phase of this project will incorporate non-current subscriptions.

◆ The **annual Clyde Peters vespers** is Sept. 15. Highlights include the new flight training plane, a Nebraska state patrol presentation and an airshow with parachuting and sky diving. **Don Starling** director of Adventist World Aviation and **David Gates** director of Medical World Aviation will have a presentation during the air show.

◆ The **Union College Multicultural Committee** invites the campus community to four free activities during the school year. The focus is raising awareness and encouraging appreciation and involvement with diversity on campus. The first program will take place Sept. 19 at 10:30 a.m. in the amphitheater. The focus will be on **women in the workforce**. Actress **Pippa White**, will perform "Women's Work." The show will look at all the aspects of woman's work from the immigrant pioneer grandmothers, to Rosie the Riveter, to present-day women of the work force.

CAMPUS TRIVIA QUESTION

◆ **Q:** How many **presidents** has Union College had since the first school year?

WEB TIP

◆ Check out the **new format of current news** on the Web site. The page is slightly different in look, organized by categories and offers an RSS (Real Simple Syndication) feed.

◆ The **online Peanut Gallery** is current for this school year. Go to www.ucollege.edu/peanutgallery and check out the new faces of Union College.

Share in the conversation.

Submit information for *Campus Conversations* or other public relations purposes to news@ucollege.edu or fill out the Campus News Form under "News and Publications" at www.ucollege.edu. Information is needed by Sept 6.

Edited by Tara Taylor