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## Employee Development Day Addresses Diversity in the Workplace

A committee of 10 employees from all areas of the College worked through the fall semester to present the Employee Day program November 9. Its theme was "Diversity in the Workplace."

After a welcome by Vice President of Student Affairs Bonnie Henry, Dr. Hanni Taylor spoke on "Multicultural Perspectives in the Workplace." Taylor, who was born in Germany, chairs the English department at Aurora University. During her presentation, she stressed that effective cross-cultural interactions are a result of being in touch with one's own values, attitudes and beliefs.

"The day's events provided us with an excellent introduction to the topic of cultural diversity," said Linda Alberts, support staff coordinator for staff development, who added that programs will be offered next semester for further multicultural learning.

Other workshops during Employee Development Day included Diversity in Management Styles, Valuing People with Disabilities, Learning Styles, The Arab Culture, and Valuing Diversity. The staff was also treated to lunch and a presentation by "Acting Up," a performance troupe made up of people over the age of 60 who use humor, music and drama to poke fun at the stereotypes of aging and to point out that growing older can be a time of self-discovery and creativity.

Members of the Employee Development Committee who helped plan the day's events include Alberts, Larry Bielawa, Jaci Carroll, Gwen Clayborne, Jan Cook, Judy Dincher, Marianne Gasparaitis, Richard Geary, Rich Seiler, Lee Vogel and Pat Wisner.

## The President's Message



The cradle of civilization is teeming with people from every corner of the globe. The incursion of Kuwait by Iraq has brought a multinational force into a concentrated area of Saudi Arabia and the Persian Gulf. Prior to that, glasnost and perestroika in the U.S.S.R. allowed Soviet Jews to emigrate, many of whom chose to settle in Israel. The economic forces already at work in the Middle East had brought servants, drivers and other caregivers from such diverse countries as India, Pakistan, China and several African countries as well.

The incendiary potential of religious, political, cultural and ethnic differences of this confluence of people is frightening. When a military confrontation is thrown into the midst of such a seething cauldron, the danger to humanity escalates precipitously. I cannot envision this situation being resolved without significant consequences for all the world's citizens. Consequences of the confrontation are already being felt

"My wish for you at this season is that you find yourself in harmony with your beliefs and your lifestyle within that value system."

Paul Thompson

around the world. Any resolution will certainly be as significant in its impact.

As this season begins, we are drawn to signs and symbols. Some are commercial in character—catalogs, retailer advertisements, opulent window displays. Others are cultural—candles,

Christmas trees, wooden shoes, pilgrimages, family reunions, etc. Still others, whether they be Advent, Hannukkah or other religious observances, are uniquely holy depending upon their religious tradition. But throughout this season words like HOPE, PEACE and JOY are predominant in the language, literature and thoughts of our society. How incongruous with the war rhetoric that has been pressed upon us! How do we make sense out of this season in the context of all that is happening?

Ur world has undergone immense transformation. It has become a more crowded, more interconnected, more unstable place. A new generation of Americans must be educated for life in this increasingly complex world. If the undergraduate cannot help students see beyond themselves and better understand the interdependent nature of our world, each new generation will remain ignorant and its capacity to live confidently and responsibly will be dangerously diminished."

Ernest Boyer, President

Carnegie Foundation
for the Advancement of Teaching

It is probably not possible. There is no simple solution. However, as a premier institution of higher education, we ought to be helping our students to sort out options. That means we must seek to understand our own positions on these matters and personally resolve our values with these issues. In accomplishing that, there is

HOPE. We must also recognize that we have an ethnocentric view. We have to imagine ourselves in the shoes of those from other cultural backgrounds in order to be capable of reaching PEACE in any global sense. Harper has a responsibility to provide the forum for intercultural/international understanding and recogni-

tion of differences. For us to internalize the concept of international PEACE, we must have resolved conflict within ourselves and promoted avenues for eliminating conflict among others with whom we live and work. To the extent that we have done these things, we may find a way to experience JOY in our lives.

My wish for you at this season is that you find yourself in harmony with your beliefs and your lifestyle within that value system. I also wish that you be willing to articulate your most informed views regarding our place in the

world order. Our role at Harper, in our community and with our families can only be enhanced by having internalized our values and having advocated them.



#### focus on Telecourses

As today's lifestyles and responsibilities become more and more involved, students are responding to educational alternatives.

"Students take telecourses for a variety of reasons," says Molly Waite, political science associate professor and coordinator of LRC-based telecourse offerings. She says they cite as reasons personal interest in the programs, flexibility in viewing and studying, heavy work schedules, frequent out-of-wn work-related travel, family obligations and the option of self-paced study.

Since Harper's first telecourse was offered in 1980, enrollments have increased significantly. In fact, 780 students are enrolled in this fall's 22 offerings. The courses, produced professionally for nationwide distribution, consist of 10-30 video (and sometimes supplementary audio) programs broadcast by area cable networks and Channel 20. Students view these offerings, which are supplemented by a textbook and study guide. A Harper faculty member serves as the course instructor, preparing the syllabus, assignments and tests, and also serving as the contact for student questions, orientations and review sessions. Most of the telecourse offerings are introductory courses offered from semester to semester. However, two new offerings for the



Learning Resources Center staff members (from left) Diane Kinn, Jean Hoffman and Al Dunikoski look over the telecourse schedule with Telecourse Coordinator Molly Waite.

spring semester include business math (MGT 150) and applied general statistics (MGT 225).

As teleprogram coordinator, Molly Waite works with the Harper faculty to select telecourses. She and Diane Kinn of the Learning Resources Center then lease the offerings from either the producer or the Northern Illinois Learning Resources Cooperative and coordinate tape distribution to area libraries. They also work with Harper's Media Center for tape distribution, the TV Studio for tape duplication and the Audio-visual department for tape transmission to the cable companies. In addition, the telecourse faculty and staff work closely with the Testing Center, where the 780 students are tested several times each semester. In addition, Al Dunikoski, Kinn and Jean Hoffman also assist by answering students' questions and coordinating the many telecourse components.

Promotional materials for telecourses stress that successful telecourse students must be self-disciplined. They are expected not only to view the tapes, but also to complete all assignments. Waite warns that the withdrawal rate from telecourse offerings is somewhat higher than Harper's overall withdrawal rate. "We are very concerned about our drop-out rate," she says. "We are constantly making changes to help telecourse students so they will not have to drop out. We also do not recommend that all students take telecoursesnot all students are prepared to study independently. So, we would like to be sure that those who do sign up are well informed about the course requirements and are prepared to study and take tests without the discipline of seeing an instructor three times each week."

More information about spring telecourse offerings may be obtained by calling Diane Kinn at extension 2586.

# of Bill Andresen

"If you see someone out rowing on Harper Lake, it's me!" says Biology Professor Bill Andresen. As a volunteer for the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Andresen monitors the lake as part of its Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program, collecting samples for study.

His interest in biology goes beyond Harper, though. He is also a serious backpacker who prefers harsh, desolate environments—such as deserts and areas of recent volcanism. For the most part he limits his trips to national parks and monuments, and some of his favorite destinations include the Sonoran Desert, Death Valley and Craters of the Moon National Monument in Idaho.

With these interests, Andresen is the natural choice to co-lead the Harper-sponsored Belize tour this spring. Participants in this trip, a continuing education offering, will live rustically (no indoor plumbing, no electricity) while studying the people, biology and culture of Belize. As part of Harper's Northeast Marine Environmental Institution, Inc. (NEMEII) affiliation, the trip will be offered one more time as a continuing education offering before becoming a field biology credit course.

Andresen has taught Principles of Biology, Field Biology and Human Physiology at Harper for the past 13 years and insists, "Harper is the best thing that ever happened to me." Born: Duluth, Minnesota

**Education:** B.A., Zoology, University of Minnesota, Duluth; M.A., Zoology, Southern Illinois University; M.S., Exercise Physiology/Cardiac Rehabilitation, Northeastern Illinois University

**Family:** Wife, Jeanie; dog, Taimyr, a Samoyed; and three llamas

**Interests:** Reading (non-fiction), working on cars, and backpacking

If time and money were not a problem: I would work at Harper part time and travel full time.

I would like to learn: More about geology and astronomy.

I don't care much for: Paperwork and getting out of bed before noon.

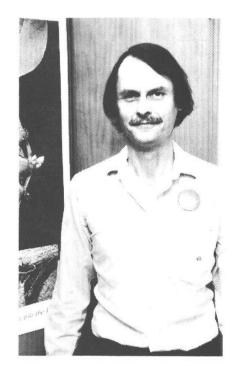
**Best advice my parents gave me:** Give a full day's work for a full day's pay (do the best you can when someone is paying you.)

One thing I've learned in life: As you get older, you get slower. Also, never teach without a contract.

Favorite food: Chinese

**Favorite Movie:** Bridge Over the River Kwai and The Last Picture Show

Favorite animal: Elephant



Bill Andresen

#### Williams Retires



**Dave Williams** 

Nearly 175 Harper faculty, staff, administrators and retirees turned out to wish Dave Williams a happy retirement. Williams is leaving the post of vice president of academic affairs—one he has held since 1977. Before that he was dean of instruction and associate dean of Life Science and Human Services. The well-wishers, coming from as far away as Arkansas and Texas, enjoyed the program presented by Paul Thompson, Bonnie Henry, Ray Devery and Roger Mussell, and contributed to Williams' going-away gift, a VCR.

#### **Inside Harper**



Linda Alberts, right, chairman of the Employee Development Committee, greets keynote speaker Hanni Taylor during Harper's Employee Day observance on November 9. Dr. Taylor, who was born and raised in Germany, chairs the English department at Aurora University. She spoke on "Multicultural Perspectives in the Workplace."



Harper's fall theatrical production, *The Fantasticks*, directed by Mary Jo Willis of the speech and theatre department, was staged on campus in November. The College's spring production, *Morning's at Seven*, will be gearing up shortly. It is an American comedy set in the 1930s, which will be directed by Speech and Theatre Instructor Todd Ballantyne. Performances are set for April 19, 20, 26, and 27.



During a reception held in his honor, groundskeeper Don Brady (left) accepts an aerial photograph of the Harper campus from Vice President of Administrative Services Vern Manke. Brady, who worked at Harper for more than 21 years, retired on December 1. He says he plans to stay in the area and work on his wife's list and adds that he won't miss plowing snow here at Harper.

## Departmental Developments

Warren Myers, adjunct faculty member, TM/PS, presented a 90-minute live program on the Kentucky Educational Television Network. During the program, which was broadcast to 17 states, Myers demonstrated five hands-on activities to use in teaching probability and statistics... Associate Professor Cathy Albergo, Music, served as coordinator and chairman of the fund development committee for the National Conference of Piano Pedagogy held October 24-27 at the Hyatt-Woodfield. The piano faculty assisted during the conference and Harper piano students participated in a live teaching demonstration. Cecilia Cooper served as a panelist at the regional Calculus Reform Workshop sponsored by PWS-Kent Publishers in Evanston on November 8. Congratulations to Pat Smith-Pierce, professor of speech, who has been included in the 1991 edition of 2000 Notable Women in America...Jerry Stone has been asked to supervise the writing of a Ph.D. thesis for a graduate student at the University of Port Elizabeth. South Africa... **Kay Quam**, CE/PS, presented a research seminar entitled "How Family Physicians Learn to Teach Residents" at the annual Midwest Research to Practice Conference held in DeKalb in October. In addition, her article "Evaluation of Patient Comfort during a Videotaped Office Visit;" was published in Evaluation and Program Planning: An International Journal, November, 1990...Ray **DePalma**, professor of biology emeritus, has published a book of his poetry entitled People, Places, etc. The book is available in the Harper Learning Resources Center.

Reclassifications this month include **Pat Coleman**, manufacturing program specialist, CAD/CAM; **Clifford Casey**, vocational specialist/transition service, AE/LS; and **Barbara Bednarz**, secretary II, BUS/SS.

We welcome new staff members who have been hired this month. They include **William Sandford**, **Michael Bondi** and **H. Paul Herzman**, custodians, PHY PLT; **Janice Huck**, clerk II, BOX OFF; and **Sylvia Gurney**, secretary II, TM/PS.

Congratulations to **Gail King**, LRC media specialist, and her husband, Steve, on the birth of their daughter, Katherine Jean, on November 5. Katherine weighed in at 6 pounds, 14 ounces...and to **Russ Mills**, Placement, and **Julie Hunter**, PEAR, on the birth of their daughter, Rachel Hunter Mills, on November 9.

Our condolences go to former Harper President **James McGrath** on the death of his wife, Bette; to **Carol Tucker**, LAC Tutoring Center, on the death of her father; and to **Beverley Roeschel**, Bookstore, on the death of her mother.

The Harper Insider is the monthly Harper College newsletter produced by Publications and Communication Services. We cordially invite all employees to contribute stories and information before the twenty-fifth of the month for the Issue published the following month. Please contact Ann Goldberg, A302, extension 2512.

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#### In Case You're Asked...

Saturday, December 22 -Wednesday, January 2 Christmas Break

Monday, January 14 First day of spring classes

Monday, January 14-Friday, January 25 Harper Art Faculty Show Buildings C and P

Monday, January 28-Thursday, February 21 Ninth Annual Harper Area High School Show Buildings C and P

Sunday, February 3 Jonathan Shames Piano Concert J143-3:00 pm

Monday, February 4 Alvin Poussaint Lecture J143-7:30 pm

Thursday, February 14
Gus Giordano
Jazz Dance
J143-7:30 pm

# Classified Employee Council Holds Election

Congratulations to members of the Classified Employee Council elected for 1991. The following staff members were elected on November 8: Charlene Christin, chairperson; Mary Polniaszek, vice chairperson; Lorel Kelson, secretary; Terry Bachara, Betty Cords, Jean Hoffman, Mary Lett, Bob Loitfellner and Paula Long.

Council meetings are open to all Harper employees and are held the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 1:30 pm.