

Feather Notes

Upper Iowa University eNews



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New program offers opportunities for faculty

by Amelia Holden

Financially and logistically speaking, taking a campus full of students, faculty and staff to another country to experience the culture just isn't possible.

But when Dr. Ed Ogle, senior vice president for the Residential University, made his first trip to Upper Iowa University centers in Asia during 2001, he knew he had to find a way to allow students, faculty and staff at Fayette and other U.S. centers to have the same experience. He was also hearing from the faculty at the Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore centers that they would like to interact more with their American counterparts.

"That request did not subside," Ogle said. "When (President Alan) Walker joined Upper Iowa and began making trips to Asia, he heard the same requests." Walker asked Ogle and Dr. Suzanne James, senior vice president for the Extended University, to look into ways both sides could share their knowledge and experience.

What they have come up with is a faculty exchange program where faculty from any center, domestic or international, can travel to Fayette for a term and vice versa. "It's more than just teaching the students," Ogle said. It's about sharing knowledge, interacting with fellow faculty and more.

There are several objectives with the program. First is to increase familiarity of the faculty with all areas of the university, not just where they currently teach. They also

hope new ideas can enrich the curriculum through the life experience and cultural experience of visitors. There is hope that an outsider's perspective can add new insight to discussions about curriculum, culture and other issues. Finally, Ogle said they hope to arrange events in the local community for visitors to speak about their culture, customs and more.

The road to making this all happen has not been without its speed bumps. At this point, faculty from the Asian centers cannot come to Fayette yet because Upper Iowa needs to get authority to issue a certain type of visa. Ogle said they are working on getting faculty from the Vancouver Center to Iowa because they do not need the visa.

Even with some details left to be worked out, the exchange program started at the beginning of the school year with Charley Swayne from the Prairie Center teaching a couple of business classes in Fayette. Swayne enjoyed the experience so much he has proposed a class for the interim session in May.

For Term II, Redmond Humphrey has joined the business faculty in Fayette. Humphrey, a United States citizen, has been teaching at the Hong Kong Center since 2003. Although not a native of Hong Kong, Humphrey has much to offer in the exchange program, and his citizenship means he doesn't need the visa. "I've taken advantage

of my stay in Hong Kong," Humphrey said. He has been researching global negotia-

into certain circles. The innermost circle is family, in the middle is close friends and the



Redmond Humphrey, a UIU professor of business visiting Fayette from the Hong Kong Center, teaches a class during Term II. Humphrey is part of the fledgling faculty exchange program designed to facilitate more interaction among faculty from all UIU sites.

tions, first as a hobby and now officially. He said he sees many positives in the program.

"One of the benefits I foresee that could come out of this program is you could bring about a better exchange of ideas," he said. "We are training future managers," Humphrey added about UIU's business program. With Asia emerging as a global power there is a likelihood that these students will at some point have dealings with an Asian company. Humphrey said this program could give the students a chance to learn more about the people and culture, perhaps even make connections, early on.

Humphrey described the concept of *guanxi*, the Asian concept of relationships falling

outside circle holds business acquaintances. The earlier a relationship is begun, the farther into the circles a person can go. The exchange program could provide an important link for students, Humphrey said.

In addition to Hong Kong, Humphrey has taught in Latin America and the United States.

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New partnership opens doors for international students

A new program in Hawaii could lead more international students to Upper Iowa University.

The new certificate in American studies is a partnership between UIU and Intercultural Communications College, an English-as-a-second-language school in Honolulu. For the past few years, ICC has been using UIU's English 101 class, Basic Composition, as one of the courses to help non-native English speakers learn the language. ICC is designed

to help non-English-speaking students learn the language so they can proceed to school in an English-speaking country or use the language in business dealings.

"The certificate was designed to enhance the English skills of the international students studying at ICC," said Tim Hunt, associate vice president for the Extended University, "and to prepare them to continue their education at an American university, preferably UIU."

The new certificate program includes five UIU courses that will help ease the transition from ICC to another U.S. college or university. All of the courses are three credit hours each, and the credits will transfer seamlessly to other UIU programs. Courses include Basic Composition, Composition, Presentation and Public Speaking, General Psychology and Principals of Sociology.

"It's an exciting new partnership," said Hunt. "Students

attending ICC may opt to begin studies at UIU while in Honolulu."

Students at ICC come from all over the world, including many from Japan, Korea and Switzerland. ICC provides the instruction for the courses based on curriculum supplied by Upper Iowa.

UIU and ICC hosted a signing ceremony on Nov. 12 to officially seal the deal. The program is currently in the pilot stages, and promotion officially begins Jan. 1.

Fayette campus gets new entertainment

by Chelsea Petersen

After three years of preparation, a putting green on the Upper Iowa campus in Fayette is a reality.

Mike Estrem, director of grounds, saw the space in the small area adjacent to the southwest corner of Baker-Hebron when he first arrived and thought it would be a good area for a green. However, due to his obligations elsewhere, he was unable to start the project.

In late 2004, Estrem mentioned the idea to his work study, Troy McQuillen. An experienced groundsman, McQuillen immediately took action. In fact, McQuillen designed nearly everything with the help of professor of science Scott Figdore and Estrem. Figdore, who was McQuillen's advisor, teaches courses in botany, plant nutrition and other topics.

The green took extensive time to prepare, as seeding, laying sod and similar ground preparations were taken.

"The whole construction phase took place in 2005. Seeding was done that August," Estrem said. McQuillen was propelled by the idea, and it

soon developed into his senior project.

McQuillen designed the area and, with the help of the Upper Iowa Grounds Department, the project excelled. Currently, McQuillen works as a horticulture instructor at Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids and checks on his project regularly. As for the Grounds Department and Estrem, they are still very much involved.

"I bet we have Grounds people on the green three times a week. This summer, we mowed once a day, but that has obviously slowed down,"

Estrem said. Someone from Grounds is on the green each

week walking around, checking for irrigation problems and making physical observations. In addition to the maintenance,



The new putting green, next to Baker-Hebron on the Fayette campus, opened this fall. The area is open to students, faculty, staff or others who need a little practice sinking their puts.

the Grounds Department also funds the project.

Estrem explained the construction process wasn't expensive, and the department can absorb the small annual budget the green requires. The seed and fertilizer were donated by Specialty Turf and Ag, and Redline provided a 25 percent discount on fill material. The remaining costs were around \$2,000.

Another student, Brent Lennox, has also found interest in the green with regard to his senior project. His job is to landscape the surrounding area, known as the golf green collar. Lennox put down sod, bed-prepped and seeded the area in an attempt to enhance the green. Figdore continues to be involved in the project, as he advises both McQuillen and Lennox.

The golf green opened in September of 2006 and is available to all who wish to participate. McQuillen will present his senior project in December of 2006.

OSS gets new name

After years of doing more than serving students, the Office of Student Services will have a name that reflects all they do. It will be known Jan. 1 as the Office of Student Development.

"I believe that we are more than student services and that we are about helping students develop," said Louise Scott, dean of student services. "We may supply IDs, but I think more importantly we help students grow emotionally and socially."

Scott said she's wanted this change since she moved into her current position, but the timing has not worked out in the past. Earlier this year, Scott approached Ed Ogle, senior vice president for the Residential University, with the idea. He agreed, and the proposal went on to President Alan Walker. After years of trying, Scott got her wish.

The services offered by the office range from career help to housing, from counseling to recreation and wellness.

All aspects, Scott said, help students develop as contributing members of a community. Staff members offer educational programs on health issues, social issues and more. They help the students in the residence halls learn to get along with roommates and neighbors and how to write resumes and cover letters.

"We want to help them make wise choices here," Scott said. All of the OSD's programming is designed to enrich students' lives.

In addition to the office's name change, some titles in the office will change as well. Career Services will become Career Development, and Student Activities will be Student Leadership and Activities. All of these changes more accurately reflect what happens in OSD.

"We feel like changing the name puts the emphasis more on the student than the office," Scott said. "They're the ones who need to make the choice to become involved."

UIU Yesterdays

UIU Yesterdays are a chance for you to take a walk down memory lane. The following events were highlighted in the Collegian, UIU's student newspaper, during this time in the respective years. If you have memories of your time at UIU you'd like to share with the Peacock family, please e-mail them to alumni@uiu.edu and we'll try to use them in an upcoming issue of Feather Notes.

40 years ago ~

Rosie Spinner was crowned Miss Merry Christmas. Ron Bielling was her escort.

The Peacock football team set 14 records for the season, including seven personal records by Warren Pierce. Pierce set new school records for most career touchdowns (34), most career points (204), most season touchdowns (20), most season points (120), most yards rushing in a game (185), most career yards rushing (2,126) and most season yards rushing (923). Charlie Brown set an all-time career pass receiving record with 66 passes for 683 yards and three touchdowns. Steve Becker set a record in passing for a fresh-

man with 775 yards. The team records included yards averaged per game (413.3), most interceptions by a team in a season (23), most yards gained rushing for the season (3,002 with an average of 300.2 per game) and most points scored in a year (338).

The New Christy Minstrels were set to play Dec. 5 in Dorman Memorial Gymnasium.

The freshman and sophomore classes sponsored a hootenanny on Nov. 8. Admission was 50 cents for the formal event.

The Diner's Club hosted etiquette dinners on a regular basis to teach students proper manners for formal dinners. The events included a host and hostess who were required to entertain several guests.

20 years ago ~

The drinking age in the state of Iowa changed to 21, causing a headache for local bar owners and disappointing many young college students.

Tom Lamphier became the first student to complete an associate of arts degree through Upper Iowa University.

Alpha Psi Omega inducted Cozy Blosch, Armella Nefzger and Joyce Stammeyer.

Stephanie Steege and Cliff Moser starred in "Same Time, Next Year," a two-person play about a couple who only meet for one weekend each year.

Enrollment in Fayette hit 286 in January of 1987, up 10 percent over the previous spring.

The renovated snack bar opened in Garbee Hall. The area included a variety store selling items chosen by the students and a game room with video games.

10 years ago ~

The Renaissance Festival on Nov. 5 signaled the start to the holiday season on the Fayette campus.

The cross country men finished 14th out of 24 teams in the Central Region championships in Des Moines.

Men's basketball took down a squad from South Australia 65-63.

Gerry Hess and Greg Jones,

members of the art fraternity Alpha Gamma Tau, and advisor Emmett Van Buskirk repaired and repainted Fayette's town nativity scene for the Christmas season.

Students performed "The Fantasticks" in Colegrove-Walker Auditorium.

Welcome to our newest employees!!

Debra Reiling

External Degree Assistant,
563-425-5252

Todd Schmauss

Assistant Wrestling
Coach

Howard Thompson

Director of Sports
Information Services,
563-425-5307

Raschelle Wurzer

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