

Summer 2002

## NEIU Magazine- Summer 2002

NEIU Magazine Staff

Follow this and additional works at: <https://neiudc.neiu.edu/neiumag>

---

### Recommended Citation

Staff, NEIU Magazine, "NEIU Magazine- Summer 2002" (2002). *NEIU Magazine*. 4.  
<https://neiudc.neiu.edu/neiumag/4>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Publications at NEIU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in NEIU Magazine by an authorized administrator of NEIU Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [neiudc@neiu.edu](mailto:neiudc@neiu.edu).





SUMMER 2002

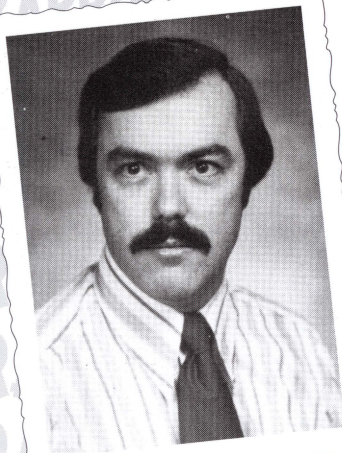
# NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

## MAGAZINE

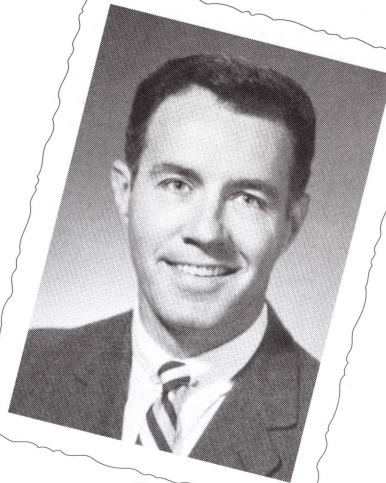


# NEIU SCRAPBOOK

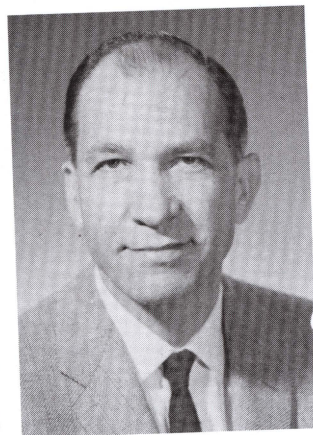
*Do you know these faculty who taught at Northeastern?*



1



2



3



4



5



6

Answers on page 4

## NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Daniel L. Goodwin**  
B.A. '66  
Chair

**Willie J. Taylor**  
Vice Chair

**Nancy J. Masterson**  
Secretary

**Carole Balzekas**

**Edward G. Dykla**

**Robert Hartman**

**Juan M. Mendez**

**Niranjan S. Shah**

### UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

**Salme H. Steinberg,**  
President

**Mark Wilcockson,**  
Vice President for Finance  
and Administration

**Melvin C. Terrell,**  
Vice President for  
Student Affairs

### NEIU MAGAZINE STAFF

#### Editorial:

**Terry M. Bush,**  
Executive Director,  
Marketing & Communications

**Erika M. Malek,**  
Director of Media Relations

**Lisa D. Cooper,**  
B.S. '90 and M.B.A. '99,  
Director of Alumni Affairs

**Terry Katz,**  
B.A. '80 and M.A. '85,  
Director of Publications

#### Graphic Design:

**Brian Harms,**  
Supervisor of Graphic Design

**Mardy Sikat,**  
B.A. '82,  
Graphic Designer

**Joe Davis,**  
Photographer

*The Northeastern Illinois University Magazine is published four times a year by the university for graduates, donors and friends. Please send your comments, suggestions and news items to the Alumni Office, Northeastern Illinois University, 5500 N. St. Louis Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60625-4699.*

## FEATURES

- 1 Urban River/Urban Myths: The Chicago River and Its Legendary History
- 3 A Scholar in Paradise
- 4 Anthropology Class Sparks "Continued Discussion"

## CAMPUS NEWS

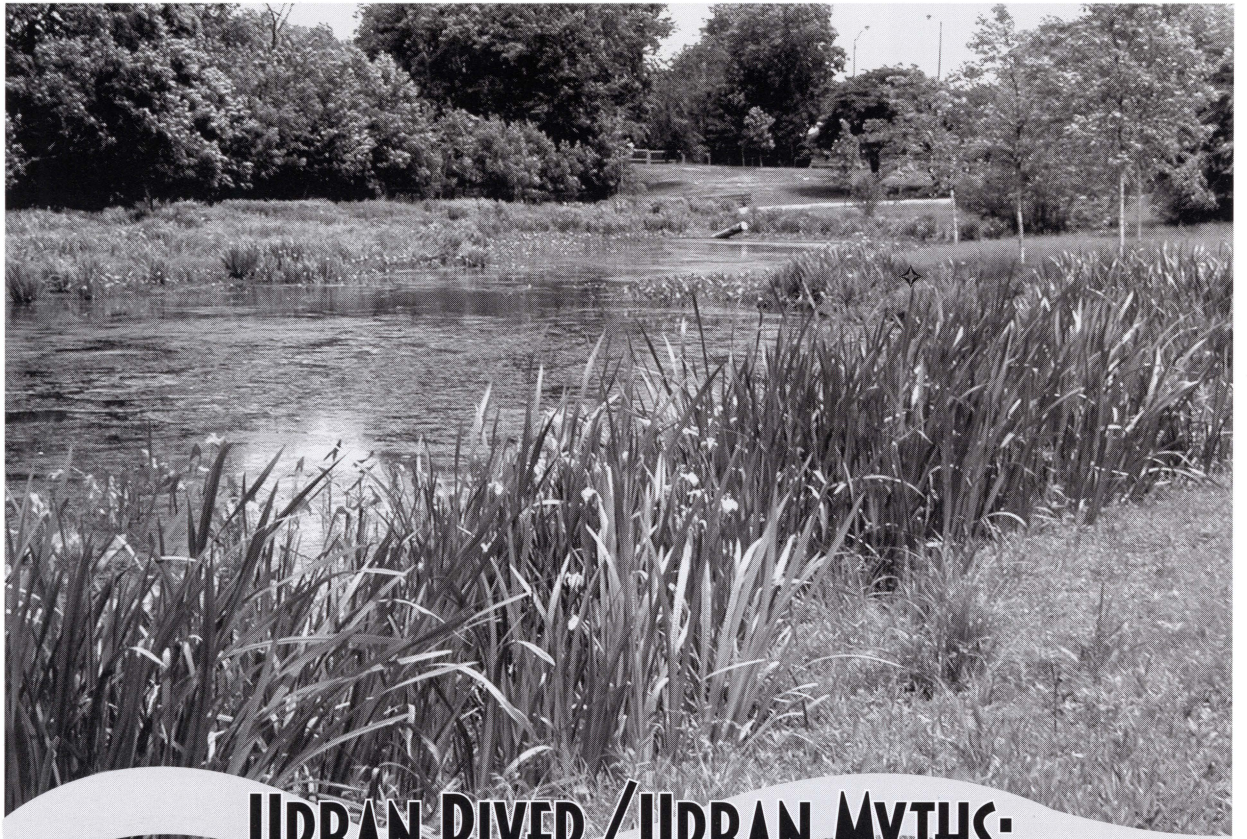
- 5 President Steinberg Appointed to Illinois State Treasurer's Advisory Board for Women's Issues
- 5 Students Explore World During Spring Break
- 5 NEIU College of Business and Management Student APICS Chapter Receives Nationally Recognized Platinum Award
- 5 ENLACE Hosts Students and Educators from Around the Country
- 6 Deans Appointed
- 6 Award Winning Educators
- 6 Our Condolences...

## CLASS NOTES

- 7 1966 - 1981
- 8 1982 - 2000

*Cover: View of the Chicago River looking north from Peterson Avenue.  
Photo by Mardy Sikat*





# URBAN RIVER/URBAN MYTHS: THE CHICAGO RIVER AND ITS LEGENDARY HISTORY

BY LIBBY HILL

**A** favorite Chicago River tale is of an August 2, 1885 flood. Polluted Chicago River water reached the drinking water intakes in Lake Michigan and thousands of people consequently lost their lives to water-borne diseases.

The flood happened; the epidemic did not. A strong northeast wind drove the floodwaters west, away from the drinking water intakes, at such a speed that sewers in Chicago were actually flushed and cleaned.

Many stories about the Chicago River are dramatic and true. Others survive as urban legends. Here are some generally accepted beliefs about the river. Some are true, some false, some invite further investigation.

**The Chicago River runs primarily through downtown Chicago.**

*False.* The boat tours of the Main Stem in downtown Chicago, showing off Chicago's stunning architectural heritage, seem to convince everyone that this must be THE river. In reality, the East Fork, or Skokie River, of the North Branch begins near Waukegan. When it reaches Chicago, after joining the Middle and West Forks, the river has traveled 79 miles through 22 villages and towns, Lake and Cook County Forest Preserves, and the Great Lakes Naval Training Center. It reaches Chicago slightly north of Gompers Park, a beautiful spot near NEIU deserving of a visit!

**The early 19th century Chicago River is appropriately called a "prairie stream."**

*False.* The river flowed mostly through savanna in Lake County and oak woodland in Cook County. The woodland was so thick that John Kinzie "Prairie Wolf" Clark's shack, built in the woods eight miles up-river from Chicago, was practically invisible until a visitor was almost upon it.

**The "original" Chicago River always had a commodious harbor to accommodate the traffic through the proposed Illinois and Michigan Canal.**

*False.* Originally, the river's harbor was blocked by a sandbar similar to that at the mouth of the Dead River at Illinois Beach State Park in Zion. The precursor to the Army Corps of Engineers began building piers through the sandbar in 1833. It fought Lake Michigan's natural deposits of sand until 1875, after (and during) which the river had to be dredged at least annually to maintain a safe navigation depth of 12 feet.

**The Chicago River was first reversed by the Chicago Sanitary District on January 2, 1900.**

*False.* After being turned into Chicago's official sewer in 1855, the Chicago River filled with noxious pollutants and gave off putrid fumes. Using pumps, the city of



Chicago reversed the river in 1871 through the Illinois and Michigan Canal. It did not work. The canal was unable to handle the load and the sides often caved in.

**The Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal was opened in secret in the dead of night on January 2, 1900.**

*True.* In one of the more eccentric river stories, nine Sanitary District trustees and an engineer, working in the middle of the night with two *Chicago Tribune* reporters watching, blasted away the dam that kept the Chicago River from flowing into the Des Plaines and Illinois rivers and then into the Mississippi. The trustees feared an injunction requested by St. Louis against the river's reversal would be issued the next day. St. Louis feared toxic Chicago River water would pollute the Mississippi, source of its own drinking water.

**The Chicago River used to freeze solid in winters.**

*True.* Horseracing and ice-skating on the frozen river were popular sports for 19th century Chicagoans. Neighborhoods claimed their own skating areas between bridges. One skater is said to have made it from downtown Chicago to near Waukegan. In Glenview, huge blocks were cut from the river ice, covered with straw, and stacked to cool beer served in the saloons.

**The development of Calumet Harbor was crucial to downtown riverside development.**

*True.* The development of heavy industry, particularly steel, at the southern end of Lake Michigan required ships of deep draft ferrying heavy materials to the industrial sites. By the 1890s, Calumet Harbor began to replace the Chicago River as a port for bulky materials. Gradually, unsightly warehouse structures moved from downtown Chicago to the Calumet. After the Sanitary District brought clean Lake Michigan water into the river, the city began to view the stream as an asset rather than a liability.

**Daniel Burnham predicted this beautification in his Plan of Chicago in 1909.**

*True.* Burnham, however, saw far beyond the city proper, recognizing the beauty of the river all the way up to Glencoe. Fascinated with the automobile, Burnham advocated Wacker Drive and other roadways follow the river north, bringing the driver and nature closer together. Fortunately, the Forest Preserve was organized in 1915, deflecting pavement and Burnham's plan away from the woodland stream.

**The lock at Lake Michigan controls the level of water in today's Chicago River system.**

*False.* The actual control station is located at 100 E. Erie in Chicago. The Lake Michigan locks open and close only for shipping. But there is a story here.

In 1922, all of the downstream U.S. states and Canada sued Chicago to protect their share of Lake Michigan water. The U.S. Supreme Court mandated construction of a lock at the entrance to Lake Michigan in 1930 as a barrier against polluted river water entering the lake's Chicago drinking water supply during storms and to control the amount of water Chicago could divert from Lake Michigan. The lock was built in 1939.

To this day, the U.S. Supreme Court controls by decree the amount of water Chicago may divert for drinking and sewage-dilution purposes.

**The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District was proclaimed one of the seven modern engineering wonders of the U.S. in 1955 because of its construction of the Sanitary and Ship Canal.**

*True and false.* The district was named a wonder but not for the construction of the canal.

Quoting from "Seven Modern Wonders Named," published in *Civil Engineering*, November 1955, "The Chicago Sewage Disposal System, generally acknowledged because of its great size to be one of the wonders of modern engineering, depends in its operation on the cooperation of the very small hordes of microscopic bacteria." It was for the innovative sewage treatment system with the unappealing appellation "activated sludge process" that the district received this award.



An NEIU alumna (M.A. '94, Geography and Environmental Studies) and instructor in geography and environmental studies, Libby Hill has received national recognition for her book, *The Chicago River: A Natural and Un-natural History*. Published by the Lake Claremont Press, the book is available at Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble in Evanston and Skokie, and some Borders bookstores, or can be ordered from the publisher at <http://www.lakeclaremont.com>.



## WALK THE RIVER

Wednesday, August 7 at 5:30 p.m.

Join Libby Hill and Jim MacDonald on a tour of Gompers Park and the Chicago River. The walk will be 1/4 mile through prairie and wetland on a woodchip path along the river, and then another 1/4 mile up a gentle slope and around the lagoon. Long pants, comfortable walking shoes and insect repellent are recommended.

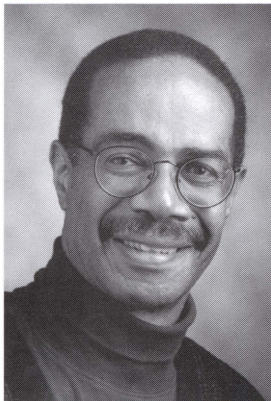
Cost of the tour is \$10. For more information or to reserve a space, call 773-442-4208.



# A SCHOLAR IN PARADISE

BY CHUCK STANLEY, *Freelance writer whose work has appeared in the Chicago Tribune*

Travel agents tout Jamaica as an island paradise. But there is trouble in paradise, and Northeastern Professor Bernard Headley, a noted expert in criminology, is helping others both there and at Northeastern understand it.



Bernard Headley

Headley, 56, was born in Jamaica. He came to the United States in 1966 for undergraduate study and ended up staying. After he began teaching at Northeastern in 1983, Headley wrote two books, *The Jamaican Crime Scene: A Perspective* (1986: Howard University Press) and *The Atlanta Youth Murders and the Politics of Race* (2000: Southern Illinois University Press).

In September of 2000 he returned to Jamaica on a one-year sabbatical leave as a Senior Fulbright Scholar to serve as a visiting faculty member at the University of the West Indies (UWI) Mona campus in Kingston. His assignment there was to teach criminology, help develop UWI's interdisciplinary criminology program and serve as an adviser to graduate students in sociology. While at UWI, Headley also helped initiate a summer 2001 program where 10 Northeastern students majoring in criminal justice or inner city studies traveled to Jamaica for three weeks of intensive study, which earned them six hours of credit.

But last summer, he found that although his sabbatical and scholarship were completed, he still had work to do in Jamaica. There was no better place to work on his latest book, a vast critical biography of Edward Seaga, the former and possible future Jamaican Prime Minister. "We expect an election some time this year, and the polls show his party leading," said Headley. If the predictions prove true, when the book is complete in a couple of years it will be a timely insight into Jamaican politics.

Headley also found himself swept into current events. Violence is epidemic in Jamaica. With 2.6 million people, it has one of the highest murder rates in the world. The human rights group Amnesty International also has identified Jamaica as having the highest per capita number of police killings per year.

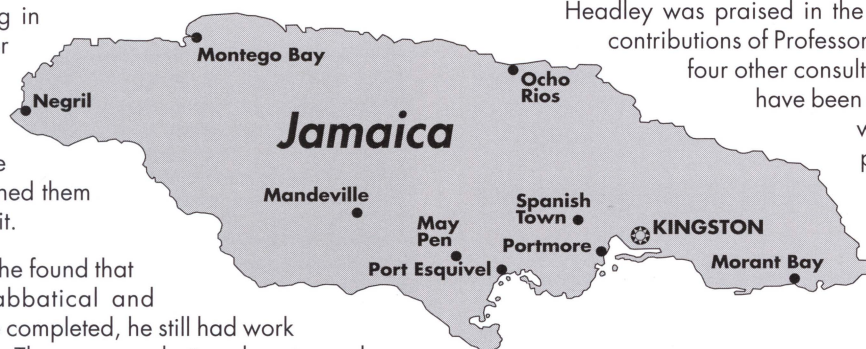
In July of last year, riots and gun battles between the

police and government opponents in West Kingston claimed the lives of 27 people, including four policemen. In the aftermath, Headley was appointed by Prime Minister P.J. Patterson as one of five consultants to the three-member West Kingston Commission of Enquiry, which was formed to look into the events. "When major events like this take place we have a tradition of creating commissions with members usually appointed by the Prime Minister and then approved by the Governor General," Headley explained. "Because it was a very explosive situation the government felt it had to be investigated thoroughly."

The commission's report has been completed, but not yet formally submitted. In February, however, Headley's recommendations at a commission meeting drew notice in *The Jamaica Gleaner* newspaper.

"Professor Headley said that while the Government may not have all the answers, it should be able to provide the resources (financial, personnel or otherwise) to immediately mobilise [sic] for action. In a list of recommendations for what he called 'a more peaceful social order,' Professor Headley suggested a number of long-term, intermediate and short-term measures. He said that resorting to violence to resolve disputes, differences and issues - political or otherwise - was normal behaviour developed over the course of several generations and reversal would take time."

Headley was praised in the newspaper. "The contributions of Professor Headley [and the four other consultants], people who have been closely associated with the social and political processes for years, were much more urgent and relevant," according to the *Gleaner*.



Headley's work comes as no surprise to his colleagues at NEIU. "Bernard has a history of making really significant and important contributions to our program," said Associate Professor Nancy Matthews, chair of the criminal justice department. "One area has been in helping internationalize our curriculum and allowing our students to have exposure to a more global perspective. It is important for students to have an active sense of the world outside of Chicago, and Bernard Headley offered that as an active member of our faculty for years."

"I certainly want to dovetail with what [NEIU] President [Salme] Steinberg has been advocating in terms of international outreach and international projects and moving Northeastern in collaboration with other universities," ➤



Headley explained. "I'm trying to shift some of it in a direction which is not usually considered. Culturally and historically we haven't really thought of Jamaica's part of the world as one in which we need to move toward a more complete understanding."

To an extent, Headley has already accomplished much in that area, according to Matthews. "In general I think he has made very significant contributions in understanding the political economy of Jamaica and how that relates to Jamaica's position in this hemisphere in terms of both understanding the crime scene in Jamaica and how that translates to issues here in the United States," Matthews said. "The fact that he has done, and is still doing, primary research in another country, means he has direct experiences and insights to offer."

Headley's research and personal involvement yield dividends for Northeastern students. "Certainly the students in my criminal justice and criminology courses will be a lot more informed about the consequences of what is happening in Jamaica," Headley said. "One of the issues I am talking about is international drug trafficking. Drugs that used to come directly from Columbia into North America now travel clandestinely and come through Jamaica, which, for example, has become a heavy transshipment point for cocaine. So unless you know something about what happens in the Jamaican society, you'll be unable to understand a heck of a lot about what happens in terms of drug problems and drug issues in North America."

Headley plans to stay at UWI at least through the end of the 2002-03 academic year, continuing work that complements Northeastern's goals of helping students understand diverse cultures of the world.



## ANSWERS TO NEIU SCRAPBOOK QUESTION

(from inside front cover)

1. **J. Fred MacDonald**, Ph.D.  
History
2. **John Etten**, Ed.D.  
Elementary Education
3. **Robert Walker**, Ph.D.  
Speech & Performing Arts
4. **Mary Anne Bell**, Ed.D.  
Special Education
5. **Julio Jolly**, M.A.  
Foreign Languages & Literatures
6. **Edris Frederick**, Ph.D.  
Political Science

## Anthropology Class Sparks "Continued Discussion"

*In the Spring issue of the NEIU Magazine, we asked alumni who met their spouses at Northeastern to share their stories. The following was sent in by **Mary (Ogrodowski) Hoff** (B.A. '94 Anthropology). Her husband is **Tom Hoff** (B.A. '93 History, M.A. '01 History).*

Tom and I met in an anthropology class called Anthro and Science Fiction during the summer term of 1984.

In this class, run by Jim MacDonald and Jane Botscharo, we read novels of some of the great sci-fi authors and discussed their view of alternate world cultures. We met under the trees between what is now the Student Union and the Classroom Building. I brought the blanket, he kept the tree ants at bay. Tom and I snacked on shared packages of Fig Newtons from the vending machines.

Tom and I began a heated discussion after reading *Childhood's End* over whether the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. could ever drop their animosity given a common enemy. (What an amazing evening when we watched the fall of the Berlin Wall on TV!) I offered him a ride home to continue our discussion. We ended up at my parents' home talking late into the evening. Within a month he proposed, and three years later we were married.

Neither of us finished school immediately, but we both returned to complete our bachelors' degrees. Tom also completed his master's at NEIU, and I went on to North Park University for a teaching certificate. I now teach sixth grade, and Tom is a police officer and part-time history instructor at NEIU. He's completing a book on World War I. We love visiting campus and showing our kids (Alex and James) where their mommy and daddy found each other.

As an added note, both our fathers attended Northeastern, as did both my brothers. My brother Brian Ogrodowski is now an English instructor at NEIU. So Northeastern is a real 'family affair' for us!

Thanks for the opportunity to share this story!



*More stories will appear in future issues of the NEIU Magazine. It's not too late to share yours!*



# CAMPUS NEWS

---



## **President Steinberg Appointed to Illinois State Treasurer's Advisory Board for Women's Issues**

Illinois State Treasurer Judy Baar Topinka recently appointed NEIU President Salme H. Steinberg to the Advisory Board for Women's Issues. The advisory board was announced during Women's History Month as part of Topinka's new women's issues initiative. The goals of the board will be to develop policies and programs that will benefit women in the state of Illinois as they attempt to achieve economic equality and opportunity for themselves and their families.

## **Students Explore World During Spring Break**

Over 80 Northeastern students and faculty spent spring break on international study trips to China, Belize, Europe and Mexico.

NEIU Professor of History Andrew Eisenberg and International Programs Coordinator Rubee Li Fuller guided 38 students through Beijing, Shanghai, Suzhou and Xi'an. They toured historic sites including the Great Wall and terracotta warriors, and attended the Beijing Opera.

Thirteen students toured Belize with NEIU Instructor of Geography and Environmental Studies Libby Hill. The group visited Mayan villages and studied the jungle eco-system and the geography of the area.

After studying the economic unification of Europe during the semester, 31 students, along with Edward Stuart, professor of economics, and Kathleen Kardaras, coordinator of university honors program, went to Amsterdam, Brussels and Paris. They visited government departments and company headquarters to meet with top political and business leaders.

Another 16 students went to Puebla and Mexico City with NEIU Instructors of Business and Management Jose E. Cruz and Rizvana Zameeruddin. They attended seminars at the Universidad Popular Autonoma del Estado de Puebla and visited museums, cultural sites, universities and businesses.

---

## **NEIU College of Business and Management Student APICS Chapter Receives Nationally Recognized Platinum Award**

NEIU's student chapter of APICS (American Production of Inventory Control Society) was presented the Platinum Award for student chapter management, the highest honor. Chapters can receive a bronze, silver, gold or platinum award based on level of achievement. Organizations that have received the gold award for five or more consecutive years are presented with the platinum award. This is NEIU's first time to receive the platinum, and the eighth time in 10 years to earn the gold award. APICS is the premiere educational society for resource management worldwide. The NEIU student chapter of APICS was founded in 1991. APICS chapters, including both the regular and student chapters, receive awards based on superior chapter management, organizational skills and active participation in professional tours and guest lectures.

---

## **ENLACE Hosts Students and Educators from Around the Country**

According to the 2001 census data, the Latino population is the fastest growing minority group in Illinois and in the United States. As the only public four-year federally designated Hispanic Serving Institution in Illinois, Northeastern is committed to providing educational opportunities for Latinos. Made possible by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Northeastern is the lead institution of the Chicago Engaging Latino Communities for Education (ENLACE) Partnership. This \$28 million national initiative is one of the single largest philanthropic efforts to target Latino education. This spring, ENLACE and Northeastern hosted some 200 students and educators from around the country. The visitors represented 13 partnerships nationwide, including Northeastern.



# CAMPUS NEWS

## Deans Appointed

### College of Arts and Sciences

Kate Longdon Forhan, Ph.D., has been appointed dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Forhan comes to NEIU from Siena College, Loudonville, NY, where she served as director of Convivium: Siena Center for Medieval and Early Modern Studies since 1999, and as chair of the department of political science (1989-1995 and 2000-present). In addition, she was a lecturer in English and American civilization at Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Arts et Métiers, Bordeaux, France. Forhan earned her Ph.D. in political science from The Johns Hopkins University and an M.A. and B.A. in political science from the University of California, Davis.

### College of Business and Management

Varkey K. Titus, Ph.D., has been appointed dean of the College of Business and Management. Titus comes to Northeastern from Lake Superior State University, where he served as dean of the College of Business and Economics since 2000. Prior to that, he spent 12 years as chair of the division of management, marketing, finance and economics at Emporia State University. In addition, he was visiting professor at the Université D' Auvergne, France, and a lecturer at Lewis and Clark College. Titus holds both a Ph.D. and M.A. in economics from Washington State University and a B.A. in economics from the University of Kerala.

## Award Winning Educators

Northeastern Illinois University has a long and rich history of producing outstanding educators. This year, NEIU alumni were again recognized by several professional organizations for their outstanding work.

### Golden Apple Award

Each year, 10 of the finest teachers in the Chicago metropolitan area are chosen as Golden Apple Award winners from a pool of over 1,000 nominees. Since its inception in 1986, 17 NEIU alumni have received the award. An NEIU alum was among this year's winners as well.

#### Margie D. Smagacz

(B.A. '91 Sec. Ed.-English Ed., M.A. '01 Ed. Lead: School Leadership)  
Gray Elementary School, Chicago

### Chicago Foundation for Education

The Chicago Foundation for Education, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the educational experience of Chicago Public Schools students, recently recognized outstanding elementary school teachers. The award winners include 14 NEIU alumni.

#### Julie Collier

(M.A. '00 Reading)

#### Beth Yaccino

(M.A. '96 Math: Elem. Schl. Tchr.)

#### Eltha (Chu) Wong

(M.A.E. '79 Reading, M.A. '88 Guid. and Counseling-Elem. Schl.)

#### William Kasser

(B.A. '94 Elem. Ed. - Teacher Ed.)

#### Tonya Sims

(B.A. '92 Elem. Ed. - Teacher Ed., M.A. '96 Reading)

#### Clare Billingham

(B.A. '71 Sec. Ed. - Spanish)

#### Kipley (Appel) Peal

(B.A. '68 Psychology, M.A.S. '72 Teaching Mentally Handicapped)

#### Maryann Ashlaw

(M.A. '90 Reading)

#### Karen Rennord

(M.A.S. '78 Learning Disabilities)

#### Mary Tracy

(B.A. '71 Political Science - Elem. Ed.)

#### Ann (Morris) O'Connell

(M.A.S. '75 Learning Disabilities)

#### Angela Tagaris

(B.A. '72 English Literature - Elem. Ed.)

#### Margie Smagacz

(B.A. '91 Sec. Ed. - English Ed., M.A. '01 Ed. Lead: School Leadership)

#### Shari (Hawkins) Frost

(B.A. '73 Elem. Ed. - French, M.A. '90 Reading)

## Illinois Principals Association

The Illinois Principals Association Lake Region presented two Elementary Principal of the Year awards for 2001. Both winners are NEIU alumni.

#### Janet M. (Holmquist) Brownlie

(M.A. '74 Guid. and Counseling-Elem. Schl.) Adler Park School, Libertyville

#### William T. Lomas

(M.A. '88 Admin. and Supervision-Gen. Admin. Cert.) Stanton School, Fox Lake

## Our Condolences...

to The Honorable William Maki, (B.A. '70 Political Science) and Mrs. Susanne Maki (B.A. '71 Early Childhood Ed.) on the death of their daughter, Megan S. Maki, who died on April 20, 2002. Judge Maki serves on the NEIU Foundation Board of Directors.

to the family of Lorraine A. Murray (B.A. '78 History, M.A. '82 History), who had served on Northeastern's Board of Trustees since January, 2000. Ms. Murray died on March 8, 2002.



# CLASS NOTES

## 1966

**Frank P. Sesko** (B.A. Speech-Elem. Ed.) is a traveling program associate for Achieving High Standards at The University of Illinois at Chicago. He recently retired as school superintendent from Township High School District 211 in Watersmeet, MI.

## 1967

**Patrick G. Patt** (B.A. Math-Elem. Ed., M.E.D. '69 Math) is the Democratic nominee for Lake County Clerk in the upcoming November election. He recently retired after serving 34 years in Illinois public schools.

## 1968

**Donna F. Kniaz** (B.A. Sec. Ed.-Linguistics) was promoted to assistant to the head of the department of anthropology at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where she earned her M.A. in anthropology in 1993.

## 1969

**Donna (Hammerquist) Ruck** (B.A. Sec. Ed.-History, M.A. '86 Guid. and Counseling) is a psychotherapist in private practice in Chicago.

## 1970

**Julio Cruz**, Ph.D. (B.A. Sec. Ed.-Spanish) is president of the Spanish Action Committee of Chicago. He retired after working 31 years in the Chicago Public Schools.

**Kathie (Yehling) Haber** (B.A. Sec. Ed.-Math) is owner of HABA Farm in Petersburg, TN, where she breeds alpacas and llamas.

## 1971

**Janus (Meyer) Fortmann** (B.A. Spec. Ed.-Learning Disabilities, M.A.S. '74 Learning Disabilities, M.A.

'91 Admin. and Supervision-Gen. Adm. Cer.) was a presenter at the Wisconsin Assn. for Middle Level Education. She is a principal at Prairie River Middle School in Merrill, WI.

**Clarence H. Krygsheld** (M.A. Inner City Studies, M.A. '77 Guid. and Counseling-Sec. Schl.) is assistant principal at the Ray Graham Training Center, a special education high school in Chicago.

**John O. Steele** (M.A. Inner City Studies) has been installed as the second vice president of the Illinois Judges Association. He is a judge in the Cook County Circuit Court.

**Robert G. Steele** (B.A. Psychology) has been a lawyer with his own private practice specializing in real estate since 1987. He recently moved to Sarasota, FL, but maintains his Chicago-based practice.

## 1972

**Janice (Richardson) Lombardo** (B.S. and M.S. '84 Biology) is a teacher at Emiliano Zapata Academy in Chicago and a 2002 Golden Apple Award finalist.

**Eden R. Rosen** (B.A. Psychology) is author of *A Daughter's Lament: The Trials and Tribulations of a Family Caregiver*. Proceeds from the sale of the book are earmarked for Alzheimer's disease research.

## 1973

**Ranka P. Gajic** (B.A. Sec. Ed.-Art) received the American Medal of Honor for arts and education from the American Biographical Institute, Inc. in Raleigh, NC. She is also a recipient of the 2002 Woman of the Year award, and her biography appears in *Great Minds of the 21st Century*.

**David M. Laub** (B.A. Math) recently performed in a musical entitled, "The Gay Nineties" at the Devonshire Playhouse. He has also performed with companies such as L'Opera Piccola, Light Opera Works and the DuPage Opera Theatre.

**John R. Wiemhoff** (B.S. Medical Technology) is owner of JRW Environmental Solutions, Inc. in Barrington, which provides support to industrial clients to achieve and maintain government compliance.

## 1974

**Mark I. Rosen**, Ph.D. (B.A. Psychology) is senior research associate at the Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies at Brandeis University in Waltham, MA. His book, *Thank You for Being Such a Pain: Spiritual Guidance for Dealing with Difficult People*, was recently translated into Chinese and Japanese.

## 1975

**Beverly (Matsuda) Cech** (B.A. Spanish) received the Certified Benefits Professional designation. She works at ADT Security Services Inc. in Boca Raton, FL.

**Thomas A. Gniech** (M.A. English) received his project manager certification from the Project Management Institute, his profession's most recognized credential. He is a project manager at Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Florida in Jacksonville, FL.

**Matina T. Stamison-Atmatzidi** (B.A. Linguistics-Sec. Ed., M.A. '77 Ling: Teaching ESL) is instructor and director of the foreign language program at the University of Patras in Rio-Patras, Greece.

**Peter Stankovich** (B.A. Sec. Ed.-History) was promoted to senior quality engineer at Motorola in Arlington Heights.

**Jorge J. Tovar** (B.A. Anthropology, History, M.A. '77 History) is senior director of operations for the cable and broadband division of the Convergys Corporation in Lake Mary, FL.

**Darlene (Marzullo) Ruscitti**, Ph.D. (B.A. Sec. Ed.-History, M.A. '86 History) was awarded a 2002 Fellowship to the Illinois Lincoln Excellence in Public Service Series. She is an assistant regional superintendent of schools for DuPage County.

## 1977

**Gerald R. Gems** (B.A. Sec. Ed.-Physical Ed.) was elected president of the North American Society for Sport History. He is professor of health and physical education at North Central College in Naperville.

**Mary A. LaJoie-Sandroff** (B.A. U.W.W.) is the owner and artistic director of the Center of Creative Dance, Inc. in Wilmette. She has been teaching modern dance and ballet for 30 years.

**Marlyn (Oscherwitz) Spivak** (M.A. Guid. and Counseling-Elem. Schl.) is a teacher at London Middle School in Wheeling and a 2002 Golden Apple Award finalist.

**Evelyn (Mohr) Fennell** (B.A. Psychology, M.A. '92 Guid. and Counseling-Voc.) is assistant director of MaineStay Youth and Family Services in Park Ridge, which serves an average of 4,500 residents per year.

## 1978

**Michael G. Kadlubowski** (B.A. B.O.G.) is completing his Ed.D. in instructional technology at Northern Illinois University. He is an instructor in that program, and in the computer education program at the University of Notre Dame.

**Edmund Ponce De Leon** (B.A. Political Science) is presiding judge of the Cook County Circuit Court's Fourth Municipal District in Maywood. He is the first Latino to be appointed presiding judge in any unit of the Circuit Court.

**Susan (Jasper) Smyth** (B.A. Sec. Ed.-Speech, M.A. '85 Speech) was promoted to professor at DeVry University in Addison.

## 1979

**Rita L. Emmett** (B.A. B.O.G.) is the author of the top-selling nonfiction e-book of 2001, *The Procrastinator's Handbook: Mastering the Art of Doing It Now*. She is president of Emmett Enterprises, Inc.

## 1980

**Thomas G. Seaton** (B.A. Spanish, Social Work, M.A. '94 Admin. and Supervision-Gen. Adm. Cer.) was appointed principal of Robert Frost Elementary School in Mt. Prospect.

## 1981

**Jack B. Fishman** (B.A. Bus. and Mgt.) is managing director of bankruptcy administration and claims, general counsel and chief claims counsel for Beloit Liquidating Trust. He is also president and owner of Novare, Inc., a firm specializing in bankruptcy related services.

**Walter O. McDonald** (B.S. Physics) is a radiology technologist at the VA Great Lakes Health Care Service in North Chicago. He is also a substitute teacher at Bowen High School in Chicago.



# CLASS NOTES

## 1982

**Eric J. Dybal, M.D.** (B.S. Biology) was recently inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. He is an urologist at Northwest Suburban Urology Associates in Elk Grove Village.

**Sharon (Moran) Jackson** (B.A. Spanish, French) is a Spanish instructor at the Woodlands Academy of the Sacred Heart in Lake Forest. She is perpetual president of NEIU's Pi Delta Phi chapter and a life member of Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica, the Spanish National Honor Society.

## 1983

**Jeffrey M. Jacobson** (B.S. Computer Science) is a candidate for judge in DuPage County in the upcoming November election. He is an attorney for Brunswick, Keefe & Jacobson, LLC in Blue Island and owns a real estate business.

## 1984

**Paul Nordhaus** (B.A. Political Science) is assistant director of the Commodity Business Unit of the Defense Supply Ctr., Defense Logistics Agency in the Air Force Reserve. He created the Center's emergency response in the wake of the 9/11 attacks. He is also a science teacher at Daniel Wright Middle School in Lincolnshire.

**Yehudis S. Gross** (B.A. Sociology) is the financial assistant for the civil and environmental engineering department at Northwestern University in Evanston.

## 1985

**Alfonso Portela-Rivera** (B.S. and M.S. '94 Computer Science) joined the University of Phoenix as an IS/IT online instructor. He recently

celebrated his 21st anniversary with CNA, where he works as a technical analyst.

## 1986

**Abdel-Rahman Ismail** (B.S. and M.S. '92 Computer Science) has been accepted in the Ph.D. program in information technology management at Capella University, an e-learning institution. He is a manager/senior analyst at Ameritech in Hoffman Estates.

**Christopher Matej** (B.S. Earth Science) is the research and development manager at Engineered Ceramics in Gilbert, IL.

**Jose M. Nebrida** (M.A.S. Gifted Ed., M.A. '94 Admin. and Supervision Gen. Adm. Cer.) honored the 9/11 victims and heroes by carrying an American flag in the 26k Yakima River Canyon Marathon in Ellensburg, WA in April. He is an administrator for E.W. Beasley Academic Center in Chicago.

**Julia A. Ustich** (B.A. Sec. Ed.-Physical Ed.) is a special education teacher, academic assessor, home hospital instructor, and reading specialist at Baldwin High School in Wailuku, HI.

## 1987

**Thomas J. Sherman** (B.S. Physics) is president of Buschman Corporation in Cleveland, OH. He is married to Laura (Zittman) Sherman (B.S. '87 Marketing).

## 1989

**Enzo Ciarletta** (B.S. Computer Science) was promoted to manager of Internet operations at TDS Telecom and to a CWO3 in the Marine Corps Reserve.

**David M. Yasutake** (M.A.S. Learning Disabilities) was promoted to professor of special education at NEIU.

## 1990

**Audrey J. Haugan, Ed.D.** (M.E.D. Teaching Lang. Arts) was appointed assistant superintendent for curriculum and learning for DuPage High School District 88.

**William J. Peacy** (B.S. and M.S. '94 Chemistry) is associate dean of technology, mathematics, and physical sciences at Waubesa Community College in Sugar Grove.

## 1991

**Gary E. Quinn** (M.A. Admin. and Supervision-Gen. Adm. Cer.) is a teacher at Minor School in Arlington Heights and a 2002 Golden Apple Award finalist.

**Ann Marie Reis** (B.A. Spec. Ed.-Mental Retardation, Elem. Ed.-Teacher Ed., M.A. '91 Early Childhood Ed.) is a teacher at Solomon Elementary in Chicago and a 2002 Golden Apple Award finalist.

## 1992

**Michael Garelli** (B.S. Accounting) is co-president of Garelli, Wong & Associates, Inc., a recruiting firm.

## 1993

**Timothy E. May** (B.A. History) recently earned his M.B.A. from the Lake Forest Graduate School of Management. He is a commodity manager with Stepan Company of Northfield.

**Lester Yesnick** (B.A. Sec. Ed.-English Ed.) is an English teacher at Brinley Middle School in Las Vegas, NV. He is also the boys and girls tennis coach, peer mediation advisor and peer helper advisor at the school.

## 1994

**Kevin M. Aronin** (B.A. Spec. Ed.-LD/BD) is pursuing a master's degree in counseling at the University of Wisconsin - Whitewater. He is a

special education teacher for the emotionally disturbed at Tremper High School in Kenosha, WI, and coaches track and field at the high school and college levels.

**Sherri T. Fleming** (B.A. Criminal Justice) graduated from Thomas M. Cooley Law School. She is a fair housing attorney in Flint, MI.

**Robert R. Irons** (B.S. Finance, M.B.A. '95) is the senior business manager of the corporate fraud and database management division at SBC/Ameritech in Elgin.

**Michael T. Turner** (B.S. Finance) was accepted to the M.B.A. program at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University. He is vice president of credit and financial services at Anixter, Inc. in Skokie.

## 1995

**Kent F. McIlhany** (B.A. Sec. Ed.-Physical Ed.) earned his M.A. in leadership - curriculum and instruction from the University of Colorado. He is a physical education teacher at Liberty High School in Colorado Springs.

**Anish B. Patel** (B.S. Computer Science) earned his M.S. in telecommunications from DePaul University. He is a project manager at Qwest Communications.

## 1999

**Lillie R. Crump-Hales** (B.A. B.O.G.) was promoted to captain in the Chicago Police Department.

**Ana (Labin) Villate** (B.A. Spanish) was appointed coordinator of academic programs in the office of academic affairs at NEIU, where she is currently enrolled in the M.A. in educational leadership program.

## 2000

**Richard Booker** (B.S. Computer Science) is director of management information systems for the Chicago Department of Human Services.

**Edna M. Navarro** (B.A. Early Childhood Ed.) is a dual language state pre-kindergarten teacher for the James G. Blaine School in Chicago.

**Jayne K. Tighe** (M.A. Admin. and Supervision-Gen. Adm. Cer.) was appointed principal of Brentwood School in Des Plaines.

## IN MEMORIAM

**Linda A. Dolan**  
(B.A. '74 English Literature- Elem. Ed.)

**Robert H. Lynch**  
(B.A. '72 Sec. Ed.-Speech, M.A. '75 Speech)

**Theresa D. Martino**  
(B.A. '71 Sec. Ed.-English Ed.)

**Gary E. Mazzeri**  
(B.A. '68 Physics-Elem. Ed.)

**Paul Joseph Pusateri**  
(B.S. '78 Earth Science)

**James G. Ryan**  
(B.A. '97 B.O.G., History)

**Mildred W. Shipman**  
(M.A. '77 Speech)

**Ursula Ulankiewicz**  
(B.A. '87 Elem. Ed.-Teacher Ed.)

## Faculty and Staff

**Earl J. Clark, Ph.D.**  
professor emeritus,  
English department  
1965-1997

**Eric B. Moch, Ph.D.**  
director of  
admissions & records  
1973-1990

**Hugh S. Moorhead**  
professor emeritus,  
philosophy department  
1968-1993



## Presidential Lecture Series

Free and open to the public.  
Call 773-442-INFO (4636) for details.

### Peter Carey

Thursday, September 26, 2002

Lecture: 7:30 p.m., Alumni Hall

Master class: 1:40 p.m., location TBA

Possibly the most endearing Australian export in America, Peter Carey has invigorated the literary community with his rip-roaring, ferociously comic novels. With soaring imaginative scope and brilliant characterization, Carey bridges the gap between the literary and popular worlds. His latest work, *True History of the Kelly Gang*, won the Booker Prize in 2001. He previously won in 1988 for *Oscar and Lucinda*.

### Jonathan Kozol

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Lecture: 8:00 p.m., Alumni Hall

Master class: 5:00 p.m., location TBA

A long time social activist, Jonathan Kozol has authored seven award-winning books focusing on the plight of disadvantaged children in the U.S. He personalizes abstract social issues by involving the reader with the individuals who are directly affected by these issues. His books often involve powerful first-hand accounts of his experiences as a teacher in the public school system.

E-mail [alumni@neiu.edu](mailto:alumni@neiu.edu) to subscribe to **E-Zine** and receive news about Northeastern on-line!

## Upcoming Events

All events are free to NEIU alumni unless otherwise noted.  
Call 773-442-4211 for details.

### Chuck Kane Golf Outing

Monday, August 12, 2002

White Pines Golf Course in Bensenville

30<sup>th</sup> annual outing supporting NEIU student scholarships.

10:30 a.m. tee-off, 5:00 p.m. dinner.

For information, call Collette at 773-442-4216.

### Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration

Friday, September 27, 2002, 7:00 p.m. – Midnight

Student Union – Alumni Hall

### Mostly Music at NEIU Annual Benefit

Friday, September 27, 2002, 6:30 p.m.

University Club of Chicago

Honoring bass baritone William Warfield and presenting highlights of the 2002-03 Chamber Music Series

Tickets: \$100 per person

Call 773-442-4978 for information and a complete calendar of the season's events.

### The Clinical-Aesthetic Birth of Sherlock Holmes

Sunday, September 29, 2002, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Highland Park Community House

1991 Sheridan Road, Highland Park

Dr. Ely Liebow, renowned expert on Sherlock Holmes, discusses how the character and myth of this literary giant were created.

### Polish Heritage Month Celebration

Friday, October 4, 2002, 6:00 – 10:00 p.m.

Student Union – Alumni Hall

## 2002-03 Jewel Box Series

Now in its fourth season, the Jewel Box Series at NEIU opens September 20 with the Orion Ensemble premiering a work commissioned by NEIU and written by Chicago composer Robert Kritz.

### Other season highlights:

- The Chicago debut of Barbara Shirvis, soprano, and Stephen Powell, baritone, in their own program of love songs through the ages.
- The Chicago debut of the Johannes String Quartet, performing works by Mozart, Ravel, and Brahms.
- Return of the Vermeer Quartet in a program of Wolf, Hindemith, and Debussy.

**Season tickets** for the nine concert Jewel Box Series are \$75 for NEIU faculty, staff, and alumni, and \$60 for current NEIU students. For a series brochure, call 773-442-INFO (4636). Single tickets, priced at \$12.50 each for NEIU faculty, staff, and alumni, and \$10 for current NEIU students, go on sale September 3. General admission season and single tickets are also available.