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## Insights- Nov. 17, 1998

University Relations Staff

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## College of Ed Gets High Marks from NCATE/ISBE

A joint team of examiners representing the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) recently announced that they will recommend to the NCATE Board of Examiners and the state Board of Education's Certification Board that NEIU's College of Education has met all twenty of the national and state standards for the accreditation of colleges of education. The announcement culminated a five-day visit from the NCATE/ISBE team during which time it examined all of the college's programs against the 20 standards.

The standards are broken down into four categories: curriculum and framework, students, faculty, and resources. These four categories are then divided into four or more related sub-categories. According to Nan Giblin, associate dean of the College of Education, preparation for passing these standards on a program-by-program basis was nothing less than an "arduous" task.

The task began more than five years ago when the college established a Learning Leadership Team (LLT). Its purpose was to facilitate creation of a new mission statement and a set of strategic goals for the college. An outcome of LLT's work was development of the philosophical theme for the college, "Reflective professionals building learning communities." This was followed by writing and submitting a set of pre-conditions to establish that the college was prepared for an NCATE site visit, and then preparation of a folio for each of the college's programs, documenting responsibilities, goals and tasks. Once the folios were submitted, the college then prepared a three-volume, 1,000+ page institutional report, responding to criteria set forth by the NCATE. Finally, in October of this year, the NCATE/ISBE team made their site visit. (Continued on page 2)

## CTC Celebrates Its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The Chicago Teachers' Center turns twenty years old this month. An open house will be held Wednesday, November 18, at the center, 770 N. Halsted, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. The university community is invited to attend, as are teachers and administrators from several schools with which CTC has worked, and other long-time supporters and friends.

Included among the events will be a ribbon cutting ceremony to inaugurate the center's new distance learning site, presentation of the first issue of the center's journal, *Dialogues and Perspectives*, and music by the NEIU Jazz Ensemble.



When the center first opened in 1978, there were only a handful of staff and advisors from the university, in space rented from Alvernia High School, a northwest side Catholic girls school. Dr. Jerry Olson, who has been director since its start, recalls the early days: "We started out working with just a few schools. We had a staff of about four or five people who did everything from keeping the books to going out to the schools and working with teachers." Now, 20 years later, the center occupies expansive quarters in a River West office building, employs nearly 200 full- and part-time staff and consultants, and has working relationships with about 75 schools throughout the Chicagoland area.

The November 18 event will kick off a year's worth of celebration events. Among them are panel discussions and performances reflecting a variety of cultural traditions. Details of these events will follow in future issues of *Insights*. □

## Assessment Workshop Draws on Faculty Interest

An all-day Assessment Workshop Program was presented by four faculty members from Alverno College, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on Friday, October 30 in the Golden Eagle Room. This event, which was sponsored by the NEIU General Education Committee, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the Provost's Office, came about due to growing faculty interest in the assessment methodology pursued at Alverno College, which has student demographics similar to Northeastern's.

session on assessment in the morning, followed by concurrent sessions on the humanities, sciences, behavioral sciences, and arts, and (Continued on page 2)



Workshop activity got going with a general

Alverno College faculty presenters, l to r: Carole Barrowman, English; Ann Van Heerden, Physical Sciences; Linda Scheible, Social Sciences, and Cate Deicher, Dance and Movement Studies.

# Faculty & Staff NEWS

**John A. Beckwith, Clyde Bradley and Alfred Price**, Educational Leadership and Development, recently published a refereed article in

*The Journal of School Business Management*, Fall 1998, Vol. 10, No. 1, titled "Operational Obstacles to the Development of Illinois Charter Schools." The article examined the reasons for acceptance and rejection of charter school proposals by local school boards and an analysis of operational charter school budgets under Illinois charter laws.

**Michael Carl**, College of Education, presented, by invitation, a plenary session, "The State of Alternative Certification," at the Fifth Annual Stockman Institute at Eastern Illinois University on November 6.

**Peter Chang**, Music, presented a paper, "Chou Wen-Chung's Cross Cultural Experience and His Musical Synthesis: The Concept of Syncretism Revisited," on October 22 at a refereed session of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology at Indiana University in Bloomington.

**Vincent Oddo**, Music, will travel to Israel on a concert tour with the Highland Park Strings Chamber Orchestra at the end of December. Oddo is principal violist of this orchestra. Performances will be given in Tel Aviv, Haifa, Bethlehem and Jerusalem. The orchestra was selected by the government of Israel to participate in the year-long celebration of its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of statehood. Oddo's "Tango for String

Orchestra" is one of the featured compositions for these performances.

**Angelina Pedroso**, Foreign Languages and Literatures, was a keynote speaker at Lucent Technologies' Bell Labs Innovations in Naperville. The theme was Celebrating the Best of Two Worlds, and Pedroso's topic was "Trends in the Education System."

**Ed Stuart**, Economics, finished the Chicago Marathon (his 31<sup>st</sup>) in 3 hours, 48 minutes, and 36 seconds. □

## (Assessment, cont. from page 1)

a final "conclusion and looking ahead" session in the afternoon. Presenting for Alverno were Carole Barrowman, associate professor, English; Cate Deicher, associate professor and coordinator, Dance and Movement Studies; Linda Scheible, associate professor and coordinator, Social Sciences, and Ann Van Heerden, assistant professor, Physical Sciences.

Strong faculty interest was shown by the higher than anticipated total attendance of 76. Alverno College is a nationally acknowledged leader in the assessment field. A group of NEIU faculty spent a day at Alverno last spring and decided to bring Alverno faculty to Northeastern.

Key individuals who put the NEIU conference together include Paul Dolan, pro-

## (College of Ed, cont. from page 1)

A written report detailing the visit and recommendation will be sent to the college sometime in December. When the certification boards meet in 1999, they will vote on the examining team's recommendation. If the recommendation passes, NEIU's College of Education will be fully accredited for the next five years. Currently there are 52 colleges of education in Illinois. According to Dr. Giblin, only a handful of these have received full accreditation from NCATE. □

fessor of Physics and chair of the General Education Committee, for organizing on behalf of the faculty; Lidia Filus, associate dean, College of Arts and Sciences, for coordinating between faculty and the provost, and Estela Lopez, provost, for her financial sponsorship of the event, reflecting the university's commitment to assessment. □



Among the 76 NEIU participants at the Assessment Workshop, l to r: Paul Poskozim, chair, Chemistry; Estela Lopez, provost; Simon Chung, chair, Biology; James Sprinkle, Biology.

5500 NORTH ST. LOUIS AVENUE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60625-4699

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