

2008

## Insights- May 2008

University Relations Staff

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### Recommended Citation

Staff, University Relations, "Insights- May 2008" (2008). *Insights*. 109.  
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## Greetings from President Hahs

Provost Frank and I are very pleased to announce and congratulate the faculty who have been promoted and awarded tenure by the NEIU Board of Trustees.

### Promotion to Associate Professor

Sophia Mihic, *Political Science*

Sudha Srinivas, *Physics*

Phylis LeDosquet, *Special Education*

Janet Pariza, *Reading*

Brian Schultz, *Educational Leadership and Development*

### Promotion to Professor

Andrew Eisenberg, *History*

Hamid Akbari, *Management and Marketing*

Kenneth Addison, *Educational Leadership and Development*

Barry Birnbaum, *Special Education*

Sandra Beyda-Lorie, *Special Education*

Sara Schwarzbaum, *Counselor Education*

### 2008 Tenure Awards

Paul Blair, Professor, *Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Athletics*

Bonnie Chauncey, Associate Professor, *Libraries and Learning Resources*

Charletta Gutierrez, Associate Professor, *Accounting, Business Law and Finance*

Nicole Holland, Associate Professor, *Educational Leadership and Development*

Cynthia Moran, Associate Professor, *Communication, Media and Theatre*

Sophia Mihic, Assistant Professor, *Political Science*

Kristen Over, Associate Professor, *English*

Sudha Srinivas, Assistant Professor, *Physics*

D. S. Sundaram, Associate Professor, *Marketing and Management*

In addition, I was honored to recognize the new Professors Emeriti by presenting the Emeritus Scrolls at commencement on May 3.

### Professors Emeriti

Barbara Bales, Associate Professor, *Student Services*

Betty Guzik-Fields, Assistant Professor, *Health, Physical Education, and Athletics*

Richard Higginbotham, Associate Professor, *Library*

Harold Hild, Professor, *Communication, Media and Theatre*

Anna-Lisa Jensen, Associate Professor, *Mathematics*

Alice K. Murata, Professor, *Counselor Education*



Professors Emeriti Harold Hild, Betty Guzik-Fields and Kenneth James with President Hahs and Provost Frank at Commencement

# Northeastern in the media

## CHICAGO SUN-TIMES

Lidia Filus, professor, mathematics, was featured in a column by Mark Brown published in the *Chicago Sun-Times* on March 2. Filus, who also serves as president of the Chicago chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation, discussed why Chicago celebrates Pulaski Day rather than honoring Kosciuszko, who many argue was equally heroic and even more instrumental to the American victory during the Revolutionary War.

## POLISH DAILY NEWS **nowy dziennik**

The *Polish Daily News* featured Carla Knorowski, vice president for institutional advancement, in two articles with photos that were published on March 14 and March 21. The first story reported on the event held at the McCormick Tribune Freedom Museum to publicly welcome Knorowski and President Sharon Hahs to the University. The second article was a Q&A between Knorowski and the reporter about her new role as vice president at Northeastern.

## Chicago Tribune

A *Chicago Tribune* story published on March 18 featured Steve Burkland, student, physics. Burkland, a self-proclaimed "science nerd," operates and narrates the Sky Show presentations at the Adler Planetarium, educating museum patrons about planetary trajectories, the setting of the sun and the formation of distant stars.

## Los Angeles Times

Conrad Worrill, professor, inner city studies education, and director, Jacob H. Carruthers Center for Inner City Studies, was

interviewed for a story that was published in the *Los Angeles Times* on March 24. Worrill discussed Barack Obama's strategy of cultivating relationships with radical leaders while keeping his distance from their more strident positions.

## Diverse<sup>®</sup> ISSUES IN HIGHER EDUCATION

The University's ENLACE (ENgaging LATino Communities for Education) program was featured in the April 3 issue of *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*, which featured higher education institutions in Illinois. The article discussed how NEIU is helping to increase the number of Hispanic students enrolling in graduate programs and pursuing higher education teaching and administrative positions.



Robert Starks, associate professor, inner city studies education, appeared on WBBM-TV Channel 2's "Eye on Chicago" on April 6 to discuss the progress in civil rights since the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1968.



*Medill Reports Chicago* featured Lance Williams, assistant professor, inner city studies education, and assistant director, Jacob H. Carruthers Center for Inner City Studies, in a story published on April 10. Williams presented a workshop at the Richards Career Academy to help students understand how hip-hop music and culture influence their perceptions of issues such as drug use, crime and violence.

The NEIU Foundation and  
The Inland Real Estate Group, Inc. present...

## 36<sup>th</sup> Annual CHUCK KANE MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING

SAVE THE DATE!

Date: August 11, 2008  
Registration/Lunch: 11:00 a.m.  
Golf: 1:00 p.m. Shotgun Start  
Cocktails: 5:45 p.m. • Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

### Highlights Include:

- 18 Holes of Golf at:  
**Highland Park Country Club**  
1201 Park Avenue West  
Highland Park, IL
- Lunch
- Cocktail Reception
- Dinner
- Prize Drawing

### Contact Us:

NEIU Office of Development  
Phone: 773.442.4216  
[NEIUFoundation@NEIU.edu](mailto:NEIUFoundation@NEIU.edu)

This outing is held in the memory of former NEIU faculty member Chuck Kane to benefit students in the Department of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Athletics, and Colleges of Arts & Sciences, Business & Management, and Education.

# Alumni Spotlight ♦ Dan Chookaszian

Dan Chookaszian (B.A. '03 Business Management) has melded a strong spiritual life with the successful pursuit of business. As managing broker of American Street Mortgage Company, Chookaszian spends nearly 60 hours a week working to build his business. Yet despite his demanding work schedule, he still finds time every week to devote to his church and its ministries, including leading church services at a local nursing home and providing spiritual counseling for disabled veterans.

Chookaszian's life as an NEIU student followed a similar pattern. At NEIU Chookaszian studied hard and also found time to continue his ministry work. He chose Northeastern because he wanted to attend a university that would offer him a richness of diversity and an opportunity to merge his education with his already busy and fulfilling life of ministry.

Chookaszian describes his NEIU experience as invaluable. "The classes I took at Northeastern shaped my thinking," said Chookaszian. "I also had the good fortune to spend many hours outside of class getting to know my professors. It was very rewarding."



Dan Chookaszian (right)  
with Toby Williams

In addition to earning his bachelor's degree at NEIU, he also completed a master's of divinity from The Moody Bible Institute. Since then Chookaszian has been dedicated to building his business at American Street Mortgage Company,

whose mission is to serve the public through hard work and loyalty, and to give back to the community through charitable contributions.

"I'm grateful for all the gifts God has given me," said Chookaszian. "And I believe that the more successful I become in business, the more time and resources I can devote to the ministry work of the church."

Chookaszian also continues to give back to Northeastern through mentoring opportunities. He has made a difference in one student's life in particular. Toby Williams (B.A. '04 Communication, Media and Theatre) met Chookaszian when they were both students at NEIU and has been under his wing ever since. Toby is now in graduate school at Northeastern and is also in training to be a mortgage planner with Chookaszian at American Street Mortgage Company. "I am very thankful for Dan's friendship and encouragement," said Williams. "He's also helped me professionally by giving me the opportunity to intern at his company. It has been a great experience, and I think the world could use more good and caring people like Dan."

## NEIU Hosts Statewide Panel on Green Initiatives and Campus Security

Northeastern's facilities management department welcomed 30 attendees from 21 Illinois public and private colleges and universities on March 18 and 19 for the 2008 Illinois Midwest Association of Higher Education Facilities Officers (MAPPA, formerly known as the Midwest Association of Physical Plant Administrators) conference.

Presentations focused primarily on sustainability, security and energy conservation issues. Topics included green energy grants, wind farms, facility security, performance contracts, and leadership in energy and environmental design.

"We were very happy to see everyone return to their respective institutions with new or updated information on how to meet the challenges and opportunities presented in the operation of campus facilities," said Ralph Zia, assistant vice president for facilities management.

## International Facilities Tour Includes NEIU

Facilities management welcomed Jenny Denman, director, facilities management, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia, on April 14 for a discussion and tour of the Northeastern Illinois University campus.

Denman's visit was part of a six-week tour of various countries and universities she undertook to learn how facilities departments around the world are coping with present day technical and budgetary challenges. She visited colleges and universities in England, Scotland and Ireland as well as Harvard, Columbia and Yale in the United States.

# MARK Your Calendar

## Ensemble Español presents the 32nd Annual American Spanish Dance Festival

The 2008 American Spanish Dance Festival will be held  
Wednesday, June 18 through Monday, June 30.

This summer's festival will include classes in  
Clasico Español, folklore and Flamenco styles, evening  
dance workshops, concerts, and more.

Visit [www.neiu.edu/~eespanol](http://www.neiu.edu/~eespanol) for a full listing of events.

Gala dance and music concerts with the full company  
and international guest artists will be held on  
Friday, June 27 and Saturday, June 28 at 7:30 p.m.,  
and Sunday, June 29 at 3 p.m.  
at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts,  
9501 Skokie Blvd. in Skokie.

For more information and tickets, contact  
Jessica Cardenas at ext. 5926 or [eespanol@neiu.edu](mailto:eespanol@neiu.edu).



### Department of Music and Dance Ext. 5930

**CDI/Concert Dance Inc.**, featuring Venetia Stifler, artistic director, and professor, music department and dance program, performing three world premieres as part of the 2008 Ruth Page Festival of Dance at Ravinia

Ravinia's Bennett Gordon Hall Stage, 200 Ravinia Park Rd. in Highland Park - \$10 for reserved seats, no lawn tickets are available. Call (847) 266-5100 for tickets or visit [www.ravinia.org](http://www.ravinia.org).

### Fine Arts Center Gallery Ext. 4944

**Renee Prisble Una: White Moment**, installation expoiing connections between place, experience, and the body June 9 - August 1 Steinberg Fine Arts Center Gallery - Free

A free reception with the artist will be held in the Fine Arts Center Gallery on Friday, June 13 from 6-9 p.m.

### Ensemble Español Center for Spanish Dance and Music Ext. 5930

**Annual Multimedia Lecture Series**, "Tales of Spain"  
Tuesday and Wednesday, May 20 and 21, shows at 10:15 and 11:45 a.m. and Wednesday and Friday, May 28 and May 30, shows at 10:15 and 11:45 a.m.  
NEIU Auditorium - \$6; \$5 students

### Duende Flamenco Music Concert

Thursday, June 19, 7:30 p.m.

Recital Hall - \$15-20

### Performing Arts Series Ext. 4636

#### Corky Siegel's Chamber Blues

Friday, May 30, 7:30 p.m.

NEIU Auditorium - \$25; \$15 seniors, NEIU faculty, staff and alumni; \$10 students

### Thymely Theatre Ext. 4978

#### "Stage Door," by Edna Ferber and George S. Kaufman

Thursdays - Saturdays, June 5 - 21, 7:30 p.m.

Stage Center Theatre, Building F - \$10; faculty, staff and students free with I.D.

#### "Taking Steps," by Alan Ayckbourn

Thursdays - Saturdays, July 17 - August 2, 7:30 p.m.

Stage Center Theatre, Building F - \$10; faculty, staff and students free with I.D.

## Audrey Reynolds Distinguished Teaching Award Deadline for Nominations Extended

The deadline for nominations for the Audrey Reynolds Distinguished Teaching Award has been extended to May 30. Professor Emerita Audrey Reynolds,

linguistics, created this \$5,000 award to recognize outstanding teaching by faculty members who have a record of success and to inspire other faculty, especially young and new faculty members, to strive for excellence in teaching. One award will be presented annually to the member of the NEIU faculty who best demonstrates distinguished teaching. The award will be presented for the first time this year, with the formal presentation at the December Commencement ceremony.

Full-time tenured members of the NEIU faculty who are in their sixth year or more of service at the University and who typically carry what is defined as a full instructional load will be eligible for nomination. Any faculty member, administrator, student or alum may nominate any member of the NEIU community who meets the eligibility criteria. Self-nominations are not considered. For more information, call academic affairs at ext. 5420.

## NEIU Political Science Student Accepted to Prestigious Ralph Bunche Summer Institute

NEIU McNair Scholar Andrea Cottrell, junior, political science, is one of 20 students nationwide who was recently accepted into the American Political Science Association (APSA) 2008 Ralph Bunche Summer Institute (RBSI) at Duke University.

Named in honor of the 1950 Nobel Peace Prize winner and former APSA President, the Ralph Bunche Summer Institute was established in 1986 with the goal of increasing the number of African Americans pursuing advanced degrees in political science. It later expanded to address broader issues of underrepresenta-

tion in science and political science scholarship.

At the Institute, Cottrell will take part in a five-week intense academic program designed to simulate the graduate school experience. She will have an opportunity to develop analytical writing and quantitative skills and plans to study the comparative differences in the democratization between Northeast and Southeast Asia.

In addition to her recent acceptance into RBSI, and her status as a McNair scholar, Cottrell was recently awarded the political science department's Pi Sigma Alpha 2008 scholarship for outstanding undergraduate

political science student. Upon completing the RBSI, Cottrell plans to travel to Korea, where she will spend the balance of her summer in a Korean language immersion program. Her long-term goal is to pursue a doctorate in political science with a specialization in international relations of Asia.

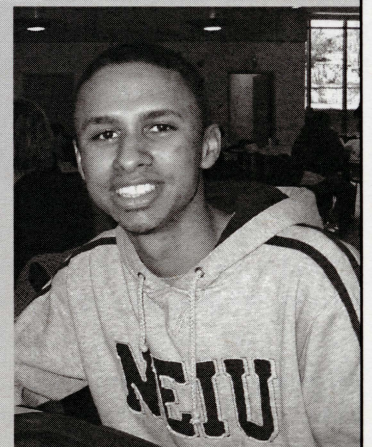
"We are all pleased and proud of Andrea's accomplishments," says David Leaman, chair and associate professor, political science. "She's a very focused student who has already exhibited a love of research and promise for conducting advanced study in graduate school. We're looking forward to her continued success."

## NEIU Shows School Spirit



On April 22, NEIU celebrated Spirit Day. All faculty, staff and students wearing NEIU apparel were treated to 50 percent off their cafeteria purchases that day, courtesy of the office of auxiliary services, Beck's Bookstore and Sodexo Food Services. Additionally, Beck's Bookstore sold NEIU apparel at a 20 percent discount from April 15 - 25.

"This event was a great way for us to come together to encourage and reward our students, faculty and staff for showing their school spirit," said David Jonaitis, associate vice president for financial and administrative affairs. "We were happy to see so many people take advantage of this great opportunity to support our institution and show their school pride."

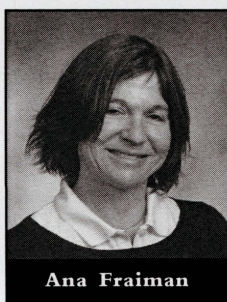


# Did you know...

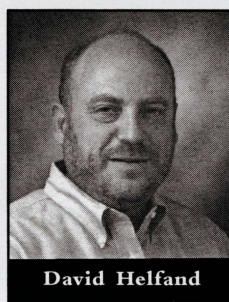
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Lidia Filus



Ana Fraiman



David Helfand



Shahrzad Mahootian

**Paul Dolan** (Photo not available), professor, physics, presented a paper titled "Spin Polarization and Inelastic Scattering in High and Low Transparency Ferromagnet/Superconductor Point Contacts" at the American Physical Society Meeting in New Orleans in March.

**Lidia Filus**, professor, mathematics, presented a paper that she coauthored titled "On Multicomponent System Reliability with Microshocks-Microdamages Type of Components' Interaction" at the International Conference on Operations Research in Hong Kong in March.

**Ana Fraiman**, associate professor, chemistry, presented a poster and paper titled "Chem-Wiki: Increasing Student Collaboration through Online Lab Reporting" at the Realizing the Vision Tech Ed 2008 conference held in Ontario, Calif., in April.

**Illian Gulkarov** (Photo not available), instructor, physics, presented a paper titled "Oscillatory Motion of a Particle Through the Center of the Earth" at the American Physical Society Meeting in New Orleans in March.

**David Helfand**, coordinator, career counseling, was quoted in the recently published book "A Foot in the Door: Networking Your Way Into the Hidden Job Market" by Katharine Hansen. The quote focused on Helfand's coaching of a former NEIU baseball player and marketing major who was interested

in sports marketing. Helfand helped the student obtain a paid internship with the Chicago White Sox.

**Judy Kaplan-Weinger** (Photo not available), professor, linguistics, presented a paper titled "Narratives of Loss in the Construction of a Mourner's Identity" at the Georgetown University Round Table on Linguistics in March.

**Shahrzad Mahootian**, professor, linguistics, has been invited to serve on the editorial board of the online journal *Language and Linguistics Compass*. She also was on a panel titled "New Approaches to Written Codeswitching and Multilingual Texts" at the 17th Sociolinguistics Symposium: Macro and Micro Connections, which was held in Amsterdam in April.

**Kim Sanborn**, director, McNair Scholars Program, had her chapter titled "Education that Transforms and Liberates: Media, Artistic Activity and Pedagogy" published in *Education and Technology: Critical Perspectives, Possible Futures*. Additionally, she delivered a presentation on the millennium student at the Illinois Institute of Art in May.

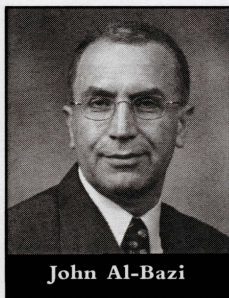
**Sara Schwarzbaum**, associate professor, counselor education, presented at the third Interamerican Conference of Mental Health held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in March on the topic of "Pretherapy Orientations to Reduce Dropout from Counseling." In addition, her book "Dimensions of Multicultural Counseling: A life story approach" was published in January.



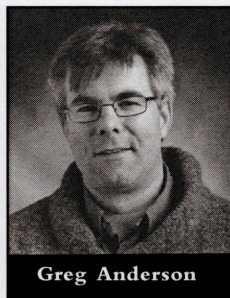
Kim Sanborn



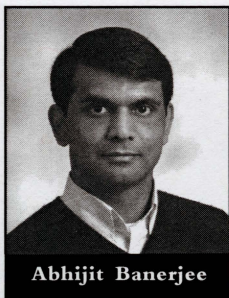
Sara Schwarzbaum



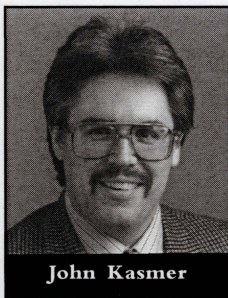
John Al-Bazi



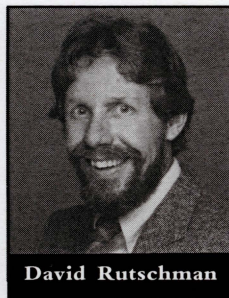
Greg Anderson



Abhijit Banerjee



John Kasmer



David Rutschman

Six NEIU faculty members have been invited to participate in the Summer 2008 Science Education for New Civic Engagements and Responsibilities (SENCER) Institute in Santa Clara, Calif., in August. NEIU participants include **John Al-Bazi**, professor, chemistry; **Greg Anderson**, associate professor, chemistry; **Abhijit Banerjee**, assistant professor, geography

and environmental studies; **John Kasmer**, associate professor, biology; **David Rutschman**, professor, mathematics, and associate dean, College of Arts and Sciences; and **Kenneth Vogelsonger** (Photo not available), assistant professor, earth science. They will attend workshops and sessions that focus on improving teaching in the sciences.

Please e-mail items for **Did you know...** to Carolyn at [c-bonner@neiu.edu](mailto:c-bonner@neiu.edu).

## Sarah Lucia Hoagland Receives 2008 Bernard J. Brommel Distinguished Research Professor Award



(From left to right)  
President Hahs,  
Sarah Lucia Hoagland,  
and Lawrence P. Frank,  
provost

Sarah Lucia Hoagland, professor, philosophy and women's studies, is the 2008 Bernard J. Brommel Distinguished Research Professor. The award was formally presented at the May 2008 commencement ceremony. Hoagland received \$5,000 and will make a presentation of her scholarly work to the NEIU community during the Fall 2008 semester.

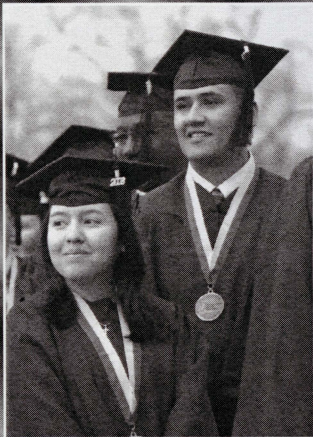
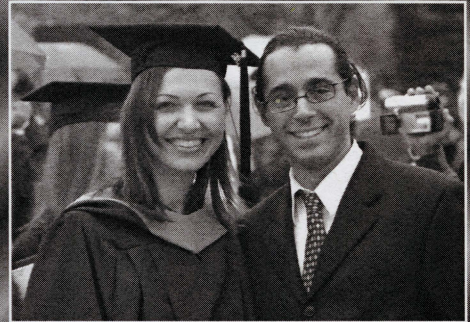
Dr. Bernard J. Brommel, professor emeritus, communication, media

and theatre, established this award to be given annually to the tenured/tenure-track faculty member who best demonstrates excellence in research and scholarship. This is the third time the award has been presented.

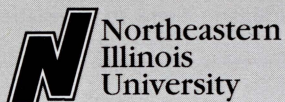
In addition to Hoagland, of this year's nominees, a seven-member NEIU committee selected finalists Zhonggang Zeng, mathematics, and Elyse Mach, music.



# MAY 2008 COMMENCEMENT



The *Insights* newsletter is published monthly by the public relations office for the NEIU community.



**Get Insights online at [www.neiu.edu/insights](http://www.neiu.edu/insights).**

Comments and story suggestions are welcome. Call us at ext. 4223 or e-mail [e-krehbiel@neiu.edu](mailto:e-krehbiel@neiu.edu).