

THESIS, STARRED PAPAERS &PORTIFOLIOS IN THE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY GRADUATE PROGRAM

THESES

Jessica L. Glieden, Dec 2008

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Jiping Zuo

“The Decline of Family Time and the Impact on a Child’s Well Being.”

This study examines the effect o family time on family relations and children’s well being. It attempts to place the issue in the context of changing work conditions with the deepening of capitalist development for the purpose of finding solutions in support of family needs for family time. Data collected from couple and child interviews, along with observations of family time, provide the information and support to the conclusions of this study. It reveals that both parents and children find family time to be very important for parent-child relations and a child’s well being, along with identifying barriers which restrict families form spending time together. In this thesis, the barriers discussed demonstrate the implications of longer work days, higher career expectations, and a weakening social system which lacks the support needed for families to sustain. This study also examines the historical theoretical conceptualizations of family time and its relation to capitalism from the writings of Karl Marx, Max Weber, Emile Durkheim, and other contemporary theorists who discuss family time and capitalism. Finally, this thesis considers current trends in research which support the need for family time and outcomes families are enduring as they are unable to fulfill the needs of their family.

Dec 2008, Jiping Zuo.

Kelly C Weiley, June 2007

Committee chair: Dr. Tonya Huber-Warring

Uniting in Solidarity through Globally-Focused Service learning

Kelly Weiley conducted research on service learning with the purpose of examining the distinctive features for a globally-focused service-learning curriculum based on the principles of social justice and global reconciliation at a public higher education institution, factors that make a difference to the outcome of critical conscious achieved by students engaged in globally-focused service-learning curriculum and also understanding the limitations that many students at public higher education face as well as the possibility of incorporating a meaningful global service learning that does not necessitate participation on-site with the international community. In her study, Kelly found that lack of awareness and conceptualization that can affect change prevents students from taking actions, time also was the limitation of many students to participate in service learning.

Action plan: Kelly Weiley suggest that time for reflection, the possibility of those reflection incorporated into actions, and on going reflection is what makes service learning a life-long tool that has an infinity reach.

Emily L. Bezdicek May 2006

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Elizabeth Scheel-Keita

Service Learning Evaluation: Peace by Piece Community Building Youth Events

Bezdicek conducted a study on service learning theory and practice. The purpose was to describe the concept of Peace by Piece Community Building Youth projects and then examine these events from a service learning perspective and assessing the effects of these peace fairs on service leaning and delinquency course.

Action Plan: Bezdicek recommends educators, students, and community members, the public and corporate leaders to collaborate to meet the full potential of service learning. Bezdicek further recommends a service learning course to offer students the options of serving the community and lastly students in the delinquency course should be more involved in the process not just the outcome of the events.

Cynthia K. Pedersen, August 2006

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Linda Havir,

Can I Make the Grade?: Assessing College Access Programs In District 742

Cynthia Pedersen assessed three college access programs in the St. Cloud School District 742 in order to learn more about local college access programs and to determine the barriers underrepresented students in the district face. Pedersen found that students identified financial concerns as a barrier to college attendance, whereas staff members identified the relationship of the college access program to the school district as a barrier. Pedersen's study also found the majority of participants in college access programs are female, and African and African-American males were absent from the program.

Action Plan: Pedersen recommends that the school district and college access programs work together to concentrate on college preparation programs for juniors and seniors, recruit students currently not being served, and recognize participating students, and address financial barriers for students.

Melissa Hansen, September 2006

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Linda Havir

Eating Alone: The Cultural Meaning of Food

Melissa Hansen conducted this study to examine the ways in which the experience of eating unfamiliar food contributes to culture shock in immigrants, refugees, and international travelers. The study attempts to better understand the ways in which food reflects larger structural issues in society, specifically, where culture shock ends oppression begins.

Action Plan: Hansen recommends for further research to gain a better understanding of the ways food contributes to culture shock because this research was too descriptive, and the survey size was too small. Hansen recommends to replicate it on the larger scale.

Nikki Knisley, December 2006

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Linda Havir

Seductive Indifference: Housing Affordability MisMeasurement

Nikki Knisley examined the degree to which rental housing is affordable to low-income families in the St. Cloud area. Knisley conducted her research using an alternate methodology to the standard rent to income ratio and qualitative interviews with service and program providers. Knisley found that there is an insufficient amount of low-income rental property within the St. Cloud area, a lack of transitional housing, and supportive services.

Action Plan: Knisley recommends further research of rental housing affordability for working low-income families in the St. Cloud community. In addition, Knisley recommends that the Housing Solutions Act should be enacted at the state level to address housing affordability. Finally, Knisley recommends that the language used in regards to the affordability of housing needs to be reconstructed to create public concern which will in turn put pressure on the policymakers to create change.

Janette Wigget, August 2005

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Linda Havir

Breastfeeding Support in the St. Cloud Area

Janette Wigget examined the impact the baby formula industry and local (St. Cloud, MN) breastfeeding support systems have on a woman's choice and/or ability to breastfeed.

Action Plan: The outcome of the study was to furnish a set of recommendations regarding breastfeeding support to healthcare providers within the St. Cloud, MN area.

Jessica Lourey, December 2005

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Linda Havir

Sexual Knowledge and Politics

Jessica Lourey researched the relationship between sexual knowledge and voting behavior. Lourey has observed that the Republican right has pushed for a limit on sexual education. She conducted a survey of college students. Lourey found that individuals with less sexual education were more likely to vote Republican. She concludes that the Republican right has limited sexual knowledge to politicize sexual issues to win elections.

Action Plan: Lourey has made recommendations for future research regarding the correlations between sexual knowledge and political affiliation.

Jill Hofacker, December 2005

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Linda Havir

The Role of Knowledge and College Students' Opinions of Abortion Rights

Jill Hofacker conducted a survey of college students regarding their attitudes toward abortion. She found that students were evenly divided between holding a pro-life or pro-choice stance. Pro-choice students were more knowledgeable about abortion related health and legal facts. Also, male students were slightly more likely to be pro-choice than females.

Action Plan: Hofacker made recommendations for further study. She also feels that the pro-choice movement should continue to work to keep abortion legal. They could also stress abortion prevention by promoting alternatives, education and family planning. She felt that this could indicate a difference between being pro-choice and pro-abortion. It could influence more pro-life individuals to become pro-choice.

Menan Jangu, December 2004

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

Traditional Healing Practices and Their Applicability in Health Care Systems in Tanzania

Both traditional healing practices and western medicine are practiced in Tanzania. Menan Jangu examines how health and medical issues in Tanzania have been shaped by historical, economic, ecological and cultural factors; his research analyzes factors contributing to the decline in acceptance of traditional medicine in the medical care system in Tanzania.

Recommendations are made to help Tanzania and other countries benefit from the medical knowledge possessed by traditional healing practices.

Action Plan: Jangu suggests developing educational programs in Tanzania that encourage children to share traditional knowledge. He also recommends establishing records to preserve traditional languages. He encourages knowledge of diversity as opposed to specialized knowledge. Jangu also recommends the regulation of traditional healing practices.

Joel Engholm, May 2004

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Linda Havir

Capital Punishment and Abortion: Attitudes about a Woman's Right to Choose and Support for Capital Punishment

Using quantitative analysis of the 1998 General Social Survey (GSS), Joel Engholm examined opinions on the death penalty and abortion. He wanted to learn why some individuals are against abortion because they feel it is taking a life, yet they support capital punishment. Connections are made to George Herbert Mead's discussion of the "generalized other."

Action Plan: Engholm made recommendations for further study to get a better understanding of belief systems and the "generalized other."

Sharon Sobotta, July 2004

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Semya Hakim

The Integration of Immigrant and Intercultural Spouses, Children and Families in Japan.

Sharon Sobotta analyzed the experiences of intercultural spouses and family members in Japan. She focused on assimilation, alienation and integration. She found that some individuals in Japan have organized on a grassroots level to help intercultural families. Community learning centers have also been organized to teach the Japanese language and to provide a support network for families.

Theresa Flinck, May 2004

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Linda Havir

Campus Activism: A Qualitative Study of a Student Activist Organization

Theresa Flinck researched student activists within a campus peace and justice organization. Her findings reveal the importance of professor/student relationships in their level of commitment to activism, the use of symbols and importance of group rituals, the significance of instrumental and expressive leadership roles, and the issue of framing activist issues to encourage participation.

Action Plan: Flinck hopes that her research can provide student activists with a better understanding of the dynamics of social changes groups, as well as help them to realize the significance of their efforts.

Minako Kawasaki, August 2003

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Linda Havir

Gender Role Images and Expectations Among Japanese and U.S. Students

Minako Kawasaki researched gender perceptions in Japan and the United States. She surveyed both Japanese and U.S. college students at SCSU. Kawasaki explored expectations about gender and gender roles. She researched her hypothesis that family background is an important factor in gender socialization.

Action Plan: Through Kawasaki's research she hopes to help increase awareness of gender equality. She hopes that gender bias will decrease allowing individuals to reach their full potential.

Renee Cardarelle, December 2003

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Elizabeth Scheel-Keita

Where Girls Grow Strong: Exploring the Social Change Dimensions of the Girl Scouts

Using Social Movement Theory, Renee Cardarelle examines how the Girl Scouts organization has worked to reduce structural discrimination at a national and local level. She examines an inclusiveness effort of the Girl Scout Council of Greater Minneapolis. She concludes that Girl Scouts may be philosophically committed to making change at a national level, but there is little evidence to show they are systematically working on this change or mobilizing the necessary resources to make it happen.

Heather Sammons, August 2003

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Semya Hakim

Institutionalized Racism: The Labor Hierarchy within the Virginia Colony

Heather Sammons analyzed the Jamestown colony during the years of 1607-1776. She researched whether or not there were hierarchical labor pools within the Jamestown colony. She studied the connections between the institutionalization of racism, the creation/maintaining of these labor pools, and the pursuit of economic profits.

Action Plan: By writing her thesis Sammons hopes to help others understand the institutionalized racism of the Virginia colonies. She hopes that we will be able to see how institutionalized racism and hierarchical labor pools still exist today. With this increased awareness one can work to change the system.

Fortunata Songora, July 2002

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Semya Hakim

Gender Differences in Advancement Opportunities for Staff at Large Institutions, Policies and Outcomes: A Case Study of St. Cloud State University

Fortunata Songora analyzed gender discrimination and differential treatment at St. Cloud State University (SCSU). She focused on three main areas. First, whether or not promotional opportunities are given equally to all SCSU staff regardless of gender. Secondly, she examined the role of human capital in the advancement of opportunities for women. Lastly, she investigated formal and informal barriers that hinder women staff in the process of advancement.

Action Plan: Based on the findings in her study she made several recommendations to improve advancement opportunities for women at SCSU.

Joy Davis, December 2002

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Semya Hakim

An Analysis of Factors Related to the Attitudes of Regular Classroom Teachers Toward Mainstreaming ESL Students

Joy Davis administered a survey to 52 mainstream teachers in rural Senior high schools in Minnesota. The teachers were from schools with a high concentration of English as a Second Language (ESL). She found that teachers with more exposure to diverse cultures had more positive attitudes. They are more likely to connect with ESL students. She also found that teachers who may have experienced racism, sexism or ageism were more likely to relate to ESL students. Lastly, she found that supportive school boards and principals led to supportive teachers. The more support ESL students received the more successful they were in school.

Action Plan: Davis recommends providing a multicultural environment for students. Recognize students as individuals. Have high standards for ESL students. Show teachers how to help ESL students succeed. Make educating minority students a priority in the school system.

Robin Debates, May 2002

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Patricia Samuel

The 'Good Guy' Approach: Assessing the Effectiveness of Minimal Educational Intervention on College Men's Rape Myth Acceptance

Robin Debates conducted this study to determine if minimal educational interventions that focus on increasing victim empathy in male college students can be effective in changing men's acceptance of rape myths as measured by Burt (1980) Rape Myth Acceptance Scale (RMAS). Specifically, the project asked whether a video intervention could be as effective as peer education programs such as the one created by Foubert and Marriot (1997)

Action Plan: DeBates made suggestions for future study. She suggested that further research be conducted to find effective methods of educational intervention. In addition, research should seek out and validate attitudinal assessment instruments that can show a greater variability in rape myth acceptance. Moreover, research should be conducted to examine the relationships between educational intervention and rape. DeBates recommends mandatory educational intervention for all students.

Michael Birchard, December 2001

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Tamrat Tademe

United States Counterinsurgency and the Honeywell Corporation vs. the Honeywell Project and its Change Agents

Michael Birchard investigated the collaboration of the United States government and Honeywell Corporation to produce antimilitary weaponry. He also examined an organization called the Honeywell Project. This organization worked to stop Honeywell from all aspects of defense production.

Jennifer Kraipowich, December 2001

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

Socially Responsible Jobs: An Evaluation of Social Responsible Websites in the Non-Profit Sector

Jennifer Kraipowich developed three instruments with criteria for evaluating websites with socially responsible jobs, and the jobs themselves. Starting with 96 websites, her criteria determined the top 16 websites for socially responsible jobs (multiple issue and working on the root cause). Then she evaluated three social responsibility jobs from each of the 16 websites for social responsibility. Jennifer presented the results of her thesis at the Student Research Colloquium, Spring 2002.

Jejuan Webb, August 2001

Committee Chairperson: Dr. John C. Alessio

The Relationship Between Criminal Activity and the Attitudes of African American Adolescent Males Toward Education

Jejuan Webb researched the factors that lead to stress and anger for African American adolescent males with the current educational system. He examines the reasons why they often feel that they need to turn to criminal activity.

Melissa Maki, June 2001

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Elizabeth Scheel-Keita

The Effects of Crisis Advocacy on Emotional Well-Being

Melissa Maki examined the relationship between duration of time of working as a woman's advocate at a battered women's shelter and the overall effect it has on one's emotional well-being and level of occupational burnout. While a negative relationship was expected, the findings did not support this; rather the length of time working as an advocate is correlated with a high measure of emotional well-being.

Action Plan: Maki recommends further research to determine how crisis advocacy affects the individual.

Yukie Kodama, May 2000

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Jiping Zuo

New Portraits of Japanese Woman: Young Educated Women's Attitude towards Traditional Family Roles

Kodama developed this study to examine the opinions and attitudes of Japanese young women towards family values and to find out whether there is any ideological change of the values among younger women. Kodama's study indicates that parental

background of the female students as the primary source in constructing their family values, and the interactions with American cultures and education were the next source of their family values.

Action Plan: Kodama recommends for further comparative study employing a sample of participants studying in Japan also the same study can be conducted on young single educated Japanese male student's studying in the U.S and also on the ones studying in Japan.

Tonya Faundeen, May 1999

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Elizabeth Scheel-Keita

Identity Formation, Social Support and the Safer Sex Decisions of Gay and Lesbian Adolescents. Tonya Faundeen examined the past and present social support and identity formation processes of lesbian and gay college students to find how these interactions affected the individuals' perceived senses of risk for exposure to HIV or another STD and their senses of self-efficacy to perform safer sex behaviors.

Rhonda Van Hale, May 1999

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

Marketing Practices of Social Service Non-Profit Organizations

Rhonda Van Hale interviewed the directors of non-profit socially responsible agencies to see what, if any, marketing plans they used to increase support and recognition of their organizations.

Action Plan: She then developed recommendations which would help market these organizations and presented them to the organizations.

Thomas Andrus, May 1998

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Pamela Mittlefehldt

The Hospitality Project: Increasing Retentions of American Indians in Higher Education

Thomas Andrus examined the causes of why American Indian students withdraw from high school and colleges at a higher rate than European American students.

Action Plan: Andrus worked together with others, including the American Indian Center, at SCSU. They developed a program to enhance recruitment and retention of American Indian students.

Dan Becker, February 1998

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

In the Interest of National Security

Dan Becker conducted an investigative journalistic report on the plane crash in Dubrovnik, Croatia which killed Ron Brown and numerous corporate representatives. The U.S. public was told that it crashed into a mountain because of bad weather. Becker flew to Croatia as part of his investigation. His investigation concluded that the plane had been shot down by the Croatian military and the U.S. covered it up. At the time his thesis was completed, Rev. Jesse Jackson called for an investigation into the crash as there was evidence that Ron Brown was shot.

Action Plan: Becker later wrote and performed a play based on his research. He also tried to establish a memorial to those who died with some parts of the plane. He made several efforts to make government officials aware of the facts of the situation.

Julie Cartwright, May 1998

Committee Chairperson: Dr. John C. Alessio

A Feminist Analysis of the Effects of Consciously Experiencing Non-Traditional Gender Roles

Julie Cartwright administered a survey questionnaire to SCSU students after they completed a class assignment. The assignment called for the students to behave outside of traditional gender roles. The questionnaire measured students' levels of internal and external resistance during the project, the levels of feelings of liberation after the project, and the levels of preference for maintaining traditional gender roles.

Gary Cheeseman, May 1998

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

Are Teachers Teaching Human Relations to Sixth-Graders?

Gary Cheeseman administered a survey to determine whether or not teachers were teaching sixth-grade students about human relations issues. He found that teachers felt that they were not teaching human relations as much as they could.

Action Plan: He made recommendations for further study in two different areas. First, he recommended that the study should be conducted on a large scale. Secondly, he recommended that studies be conducted to measure the effectiveness of teachers when teaching human relations issues.

Jenine Helmin, May 1998

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Patricia Samuel

Classroom Assessment Techniques: Perceptions of Effectiveness for Teaching Diverse Student Populations in Higher Education

Jenine Helmin interviewed faculty members at St. Cloud State University (SCSU) who participated in the SCSU Teaching Excellence and Assessment Partnership Project, also known as Classroom Assessment Techniques (CATs) Project and who taught classes pertaining to diversity issues. She wanted to find out if the faculty felt that information learned in the CATs project was effective in teaching diverse student populations.

Action Plan: She made several recommendations for future study. Her first recommendation is to administer a survey on a larger scale. She also made recommendations to improve her survey.

Roxann Storms, August 1998

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

Planting Seeds for Change: Assessing the Impact of the Citizenship for Diversity Project in Promoting Attitudinal and Behavioral Changes

Roxann Storms was aware of an increase in harassment and hate crimes both on college campuses and in society in general.

Action Plan: She conducted follow up interviews of students who participated in the HURL 101 (non-violence) class in the fall of 1997. This information was helpful to the grant project and to the Human Relations department. Roxann was involved in two professional presentations on the project – one was a refereed regional conference.

Michael Sharp, December 1998

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Tami Spry

The People's Fair: A Barter Fair for Greater St. Cloud, Minnesota

Michael Sharp wanted to offer an opportunity for individuals to come together to exchange goods and services in an environmentally sound manner. He interviewed a number of individuals to measure the level of interest in starting a barter fair. He also researched what it would take to organize a barter fair.

Action Plan: He created a detailed plan to organize an event that he would call "The Peoples' Fair."

John Hamerlinck, May 1997

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

Censored Stories and Junk Food News: A Critical Examination of the Shrinking Marketplace of Ideas

John Hamerlinck investigated how many of the top ten stories identified in the last ten years by Project Censored, a nationally recognized program at Sonoma State University in California were related to economic (corporate) issues.

Tia Marka, August 1997

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Michael Davis

Black Student Attitudes Toward Black Leadership

Tia Marka administered a survey questionnaire to determine the attitudes of Black college students toward leadership in the Black community. She also analyzed their attitudes toward integration and nationalism.

Action Plan: She recommended future research to determine if other universities would show the same results. One could survey universities with a larger population of people of color and historically Black institutions.

STARRED PAPERS

Denise N. Weekley, June 2007

Committee chairperson: Dr. Tracy Ore

Multicultural Center Planning and Development: An Analysis of Cultural Centers and Community Responses to Aid in the development of the Multicultural Center of Central Minnesota.

Denise conducted this research for the purpose of understanding what do the potential participants of the Multicultural Center of Central Minnesota want in a Multicultural Center, and also what steps or components are necessary for the Multicultural Center of Central Minnesota to obtain long term sustainability.

Action Plan: Denise suggests that collaboration, securing an accessible and visible location and obtaining adequate funding are important. Moreover, support and enthusiasm from community are of great support to all cultural centers.

Andrece L. Thighman-Nabe, May 2007

Committee chairperson: Dr. Linda Havir

Institutional Racism at St. Cloud State University; Challenges and Prospects

Andrece L. Thighman-Nabe investigated and documented the history of racism and responses to racism at St. Cloud State University (SCSU). Specifically Andrece reviewed four recent studies of SCSU's racial climate and recent responses to racism. The studies reviewed in this study are the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) Investigation; the Nichols Report: Cultural Audit; the Maruyama Final Report and the Rankin Report: Climate Campus Assessment.

Action Plan: Andrece recommended that individuals charged with leading the institution should be held responsible for making good on promises, recommendations and allocation of funds to critically evaluate the issue of diversity, inclusion, equality and discrimination as well as promoting difference.

Stanilas Bamouni Baba, May 2007

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Semya Hakim

Critical Assessment of Mediation Practices and Values in Africa.

Stanilas Bamouni Baba made a critical assessment of mediation practices and values in Africa, also examined how African indigenous people with an agrarian base tend to conceptualize conflict and mediation in a different manner than African official mediators acting on behalf of States.

Action Plan: Stanilas recommends that it is important for people to seek better identification and analysis of the conception of personhood, social relations and justice which underpin and inform the project of restorative justice, as well as exploring the way restorative justice links up with broader themes such as the reassertion of emotionality in law.

Jennifer Anderson, August 2006

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Polly Kellogg

The State of Teen Dating Violence Education in High Schools

Jennifer Anderson conducted in-depth interviews in a high school setting to learn more about teen violence in dating situations.

Action Plan: Anderson developed an educational intervention program to assist teachers in recognizing the problem.

Resources were provided to assist the teachers in helping the students.

Maura Lynch, February 2006

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

Our Faith My Life: Mobilizing Communities of Faith, One Sheep at a Time

Maura Lynch sought to develop a program for a large Catholic church that would teach members how to combine their faith with social justice.

Action Plan: She organized a team of volunteers to help get the project started. She then wrote and produced a series of newsletters that teach social justice issues. The newsletters are written in such a way as to encourage her audience members to be interested and open to her ideas. In cooperation with the church the newsletters will be reach 5,000 households.

Dani Lindner, May 2006

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Linda Havir

St. Cloud Area Response to the Crime of Stalking and Implications for Victims

Dani Lindner conducted a needs assessment to evaluate the response systems within the St. Cloud area regarding the crime of stalking. Lindner's research goal was to describe the current response to stalking in order to identify ways the responses could be improved. Most specifically how victims of stalking are treated by victim service providers, law enforcement officials, prosecutors and court system personnel were examined. Lindner interviewed 11 individuals from the community which included a judge, law enforcement officials, victim's advocate, an educator, and a victim of stalking. Lindner found that more advanced training about the crime of stalking is needed in the St. Cloud area.

Action Plan: Lindner makes recommendations for further training regarding the crime of stalking to law enforcement, judges, prosecutors, and victim service providers. Lindner has used her research to create professional training curriculum to educate about the crime of stalking.

Michelle Schutt, February 2006

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

Natural Parenting Resource Guide

Michelle Schutt discovered natural parenting while pregnant with her first child. She researched many different parenting styles before deciding that natural parenting would be best for her family. According to Schutt natural parenting is parenting by intuition rather than instruction.

Action Plan: She decided to write a handbook for expectant parents to educate them about a variety of parenting issues, expose them to mainstream ideology and provide them with alternatives. In her handbook she focuses on the issues that tend to draw more controversy.

Serafina Scholl, September 2005

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Polly Kellogg

The Face of Disability at St. Cloud State University: Facts, Fight, and Hope for the Future

Serafina Scholl interviewed a number of college students with disabilities. She found that some utilized Student Disability Services (SDS) on campus, while others did not. Those who did were generally more satisfied with their college experience.

Action Plan: Scholl made several recommendations based on her findings. First, that the SDS office should be given more resources both in terms of funding and staff. She also made recommendations to SDS staff, SCSU faculty, students with disabilities, and the federal government.

Kara Good May 2005

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Tracy Ore

A New Paradigm for Service-Learning: Social Justice

Kara Good analyzed the concept of service-learning. She researched whether or not service-learning could be used to address social justice issues. Good also wanted to find out what students gain from service-learning.

Action Plan: Good suggested several areas for further research related to service-learning.

Jacquelyn Gustafson May 2005

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

The Consequences of Industrial Farming to Humans, Animals, and the Environment

Jacquelyn Gustafson explored the issues of factory farming on health, the environment, and the treatment of the animals themselves. She examined the impact of factory farming on individuals and the planet.

Action Plan: Gustafson offers many suggestions to improve conditions, a few are included here. She suggests that people change to a vegetarian diet. She encourages individuals to write to Congress protesting the production of food that is genetically modified, irradiated, cloned, preserved, contains antibiotics, or chemical additives. She also encourages farmers to practice conservation on farmlands. Furthermore, she recommends that computer modeling be substituted for animal experimentation.

Ryan Cox, August, 2005

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

Racism and Our Schools: Effective Measure for Change and Transformation

Ryan Cox analyzed racism in schools and how it affects students. He looked for ways to fight oppression in schools. Cox developed and teaches a class called "Oppression in Society."

Action Plan: Cox developed plans for teachers and administrators to deal with racism in their schools.

Rachel Imholte, December 2004

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

Difficult, Challenging, and Different Students in Alternative Education

Rachel Imholte 1) evaluated the efficiency of the PLATO Program, a new national computer-based learning program, and 2) used videos, independent media, internet websites on social responsibility issues to inspire students who are struggling to graduate from high school to become interested in learning.

Action Plan: Imholte makes several recommendations on how to work against oppression in schools. She discusses what the public school systems can do. She also shares what she does in the classroom to increase motivation for learning social justice studies.

Julie Ingmire-Seminitis, December 2004

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

Anti-Choice Crisis Pregnancy Centers in St. Cloud, Minnesota: Are Women Being Misled?

Julie Ingmire-Seminitis researched Crisis Pregnancy Centers in the St. Cloud area. She found that many were anti-choice, meaning against abortion.

Action Plan: Ingmire-Seminitis organized a group of student activists. They participated in a training session and then went undercover to the Crisis Pregnancy Clinics. Next, they staffed an informational booth at St. Cloud State University declaring the clinics to be "fake clinics." Anti-choice letters submitted to the newspaper were printed. Pro-choice letters that were submitted were not. The students presented to their classes about their experiences and distributed posters.

Kiyoko Asano May 2004

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Linda Havir

Preparation for Japanese Students Who Expect to Study in a U.S. Institution of Higher Education

Kyoko Asano researched the needs of Japanese students at the College of St. Benedict and St. John's University. Asano recommends that students have a clear idea of their goals before studying abroad. It is suggested that Japanese students become familiar with the U.S. educational style, social life, culture, good, people, facilities on campus and discrimination.

Action Plan: Asano planned to organize activities for international and domestic students to promote interaction. Also, Asano planned to work with The International Program Office at Bunkyo Gakuin University and the International Student Office at the College of St. Benedict/St. John's University to write a handbook to assist Japanese students studying abroad.

Karen Brisk-Bettie, July 2004

Committee Chairperson: Dr. John C. Alessio

The Underemployment of Black African Immigrants in the United States

Karen Brisk-Bettie analyzes the causes and impacts of underemployment of black African immigrants. She also researched organizations that work to lessen the impact of underemployment.

Action Plan: Brisk-Bettie recommends that small groups of African immigrants find ways to organize together to help each other. She recognizes that this will be a challenge because some of the conflicts the different groups had in Africa they will have brought with them to the United States.

Carla Durand-Demarais, December 2004

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

Faith and Action: Living Justly in our World

Carla Durand-Demarais wanted to find a way to increase her understanding of the teachings of her Church and how they relate

to justice. She also wanted to find a way to help others learn about social justice and apply what they learn to their lives.
Action Plan: Durand-Demarais developed and taught a six week course about social justice.

Maria Bernabe-Bjorklund, August 2004

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Linda Havir

The Effectiveness of Translations and Interpretations in Health Care Settings for Limited English Proficiency Patients: St. Cloud, Minnesota

Maria Bernabe-Bjorklund examines the use of interpreters and translators for individuals with limited English proficiency in need of health care. Her study focuses on health care settings. She describes common barriers that are faced by individuals with limited English proficiency. She describes whether or not the translation and interpretation services are able to meet their needs.

Action Plan: Bernabe-Bjorklund outlines a plan recommending that health care providers take a more active role in following the Minnesota Limited English Proficiency Plan.

Heather Ebnet May 2003

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Tracy Ore

Diversity Issues in the Elementary Classroom

Heather Ebnet conducted a survey in three different schools. Her participants were fifth and sixth grade students. Her goal was to find out from children how they perceived their school environment regarding issues of oppression.

Action Plan: Ebnet plans to continue to fight for equality and social justice in the classroom and the world. She hopes her research will be used to create classrooms free from oppressive language and curriculum. It is also hoped that it will help teachers to understand the importance of a well developed and implemented diversity and social justice curriculum.

Molly Wilson, December 2002

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Elizabeth Scheel-Keita

Children Who Witness Domestic Violence Protection Act

Molly Wilson sought information to discover if children in Minnesota were witnessing domestic violence and to what extent. She investigated how communities were responding to the needs of those children. She attained information from experts to assist Senator Paul Wellstone in writing federal legislation to serve the children. During an 18 month period she documented the experiences of children who witnessed domestic violence.

Action Plan: Based on the findings of this study Senator Paul Wellstone introduced the Children Who Witness Domestic Violence Protection Act.

Sue Butte May 2002

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

Alms . . . for Whom?

Sue Butte investigated if and how charitable organizations use images and stereotypes of people with disabilities for fundraising. She raised questions about whether projects which actually benefit people with disabilities are supported by these same organizations.

Action Plan: Butte encourages readers to evaluate charities to see if they really help people with disabilities. She hopes individuals will educate themselves about the real issues of people with disabilities and then educate others.

Opheouse Randall, August 2000

Committee Chairperson: Dr. John C. Alessio

Arrest Ratio of African Americans and Juveniles from 1965 to 1995: An Analysis of the Impact of Legislative Activities Regarding Federal Criminal Codes/Laws

Opheouse Randall conducted research to find out if an increase in federal laws resulted in an increase in the number of arrests of African-Americans. He found that it did. He also researched whether or not an increase in federal laws resulted in an increase in juvenile arrests. It did not.

Action Plan: He suggests that the United States needs to find more effective ways to keep people safe. Plus, the U.S. needs to move beyond focusing on race for social control.

Catherine Borgert May 2000

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Polly Kellogg

Theory and Practice in Multicultural Education

Catherine Borgert had taught human relations classes at the St. Cloud Technical College for 15 years before starting this project. She wanted to design a new human relations course that would focus on social justice and diversity issues. She also wanted to design the course in a way that it would be beneficial to her colleagues that may also be involved in teaching the course.

Action Plan: She researched teaching methods before designing a new course. Then she planned the curriculum for a course that teaches about oppression, classism, racism, sexism, and heterosexism.

Alan Amdahl, December 1999

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

Diversity Education for the High School Student

Alan Amdahl attended college to become a teacher. During this time he gained first-hand exposure to racism. As a student teacher he taught in south Texas. He realized that people are different from each other and that we need to respect and value diversity.

Action Plan: Amdahl developed a curriculum for a high school diversity course very much like the general education Human Relations courses which also met the graduation standards. He got the course approved and taught it for the first time with school leaders. As a result of this project, this course has been institutionalized into the curriculum at Albany High School and is taught several times every year.

Debra VanNorman, December 1999

Committee Chairperson: Dr. John C. Alessio

Community Organization with the Elderly: A Funding Project

Debra VanNorman participated in a community organizing project in Brainerd, Minnesota. The project included older adults and emphasized individual empowerment and empowerment as a community.

Action Plan: This program was put into action along with a grant proposal that was funded and successfully implemented.

Yasuko Kamada, May 1998

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

Ainu Lives: A Study of Ethnic Value Among the Indigenous People of Japan

Yasuko Kamada researched the Ainu, the indigenous people of Japan, and surveyed them regarding how colonialism and racism has affected their lives. She worked directly with the Ainu people and Ainu activists for their rights.

Renee Rude, December 1998

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

The Role of Academic Libraries in Social Responsibility

Renee Rude did a critical analysis of library practices and developed a set of recommendations for progressive librarians who want to foster social justice.

Action Plan: An article that she wrote based on her findings was published in *Multicultural Review*. As a result of this article, she was asked to become the Serials Editor for *Multicultural Review*. She has also had other works published.

Hedwidge Tripp, May 1996

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Douglas Risberg

Voices of Eurasian Women: A Study of Image and Identity.

Hedwidge Tripp interviewed eight multiracial Asian women. Utilizing information that she gathered about the women and herself she analyzed their search for identity and self esteem. Tripp also provides examples of women who could have been good role models.

Linda Zirbes, August 1995

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

Linda Zirbes wrote an overview of Environmental Injustice and conducted a study of environmental racism in Minnesota by looking at where the hazardous waste sites were located near populated areas.

Lee La Due, November 1991

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

Defining Oppression: An Exercise Manual for the Multicultural Educator

Lee La Due researched methods for teaching multicultural education. She starts with the importance of understanding oppression. She then lays the framework and foundation for teaching about the distribution of wealth, racism, sexism, heterosexism, homophobia, and ableism.

Action Plan: La Due developed an education plan to teach students about social justice issues.

Patricia O'Keefe, November 1981

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

Ideological Language and Gay Oppression

Patricia O'Keefe examined the ideological language that has traditionally been used to oppress lesbians and gay men. She includes an historical overview, ideological language, current opinions and recent findings for 1981.

Action Plan: In writing this project she hopes to challenge the assumptions individuals may have about lesbians and gay men. She hopes to improve their understanding.

PORTFOLIOS

Lucille M. Guinta-Bates, May 2008

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

*Empowering Women, Challenging Sexism, and Personal Global Social Justice—
A Portfolio of Change Agent Projects*

Lucille Guinta-Bates organized and/or made significant contributions to public events, made public presentations, facilitated programming, and participated in activism in the following projects: Activism against Sugar Daddy's Strip Club, Women's Empowerment and Assertiveness Workshop, Body Image Education and Outreach, Anti-Pornography education, and Personal Global Social Justice.

Ayako Mochizuki, August 2003

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

Activism in Global Social Justice

Ayako Mochizuki organized and/or made major contributions to significant events, wrote papers for publication, and made public presentations on: World Farm Animals Day, Radioactive Genocide, Celebration for the Turkeys, Animals and War, Vegetarianism as a Solution for Environmental Devastation and Global Hunger, Animal Rights and Veganism, the Arctic Wildlife Refuge, Activism in Japan, W.I.L.D. (World Issues/Local Dimensions) Week, Global Feminism: An International Women's Panel.

Kerri Roesner, December 2002

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Julie Andrzejewski

Activism in Women and Social Justice Issues

Kerri Roesner organized a series of 8 projects: Great American Smoke Out Day; Palestinian/Israeli conflict presentation for Women on Wednesday; Eating Disorders Awareness Week; Counter-demonstration at Planned Parenthood; Mad Cow/Mad Deer Disease Symposium; Love Your Body Day; Consciousness Raising Group; Wrote a grant.