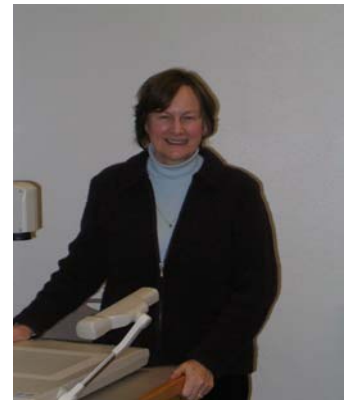




## Introducing Jane Minnema, New CFS Faculty Member

Jane Minnema began her career as a speech and language pathologist and early childhood special educator after completing both a B.S. and M.S. from the University of Wisconsin—Madison. Over the next 17 years, she taught in a variety of special education settings that included both center-based and home-based early intervention, early childhood family education, and school-age speech and language services. Living in the Midwest, she taught in Wisconsin, Illinois, and Minnesota where she gained experience in urban, suburban, and rural school districts. After nurturing four children to adulthood, Jane returned to graduate school at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities to complete a Ph.D. program where she majored in special education and minored in evaluation studies. She describes her return to graduate school as “wonderful” - rivaling only her adult children. And, then there are those four grandbabies! Of particular excitement to her is the expectancy of the fifth grandchild yet this winter! Upon graduation in 2000, Jane remained at the U of M as a research associate where she directed several national level research projects pri-

marily focused on the effects of statewide testing for students with disabilities, English language learners, and English language learners with disabilities. Her most recent research concerns parents of English language learners with disabilities. As a “hobby,” she participates in a research project with “colleagues who are even better friends” that seeks to identify data-based competencies for practicing program evaluators. Professor Minnema has recently joined the faculty at SCSU in the CFS department where she is currently teaching ECSE methods and infant and toddler development.



Jane Minnema

## CFS Welcomes Kelli Schreiner as New Office Manager



If you have walked into the CFS office recently you will see a new face behind the desk. Kelli Schreiner moved to the CFS Department as our Office Manager in late Novem-

ber. Kelli has been a familiar face to many of us in the College of Education over the last five years and we were pleased to welcome her to our department. Kelli most recently was the Office Manager in the SPARC Office where she assisted Pamm Minden and worked with COE faculty members pursuing grants and contracts. Kelli began working in the COE in the Office of Clinical Experiences. Kelli brings a good understanding of the COE, expertise in working with grants and budgets and familiarity with student field placements and student teaching. She has been on a steep learning curve and has quickly learned new departmental tasks in our office such as scheduling classes and rooms and managing student data bases. Kelli works 3/4 time and is in our office from 8:30—3:00 everyday. She balances her position as CFS Office Manager with a busy family life raising three daughters with her husband Tom and coaching her daughter’s fifth grade basketball team.

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## Chair Reflections

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This has been a year of changes for the CFS department and a test of our resilience as a department. In August we welcomed Jane Minnema as a new faculty member. Jane brings a fresh perspective, new energy and a wealth of experience in the area of Early Childhood Special Education. At the same time Cheri Gilman has begun a phased retirement plan and will be working only during fall semesters for the next couple of years. In September, Joane McKay our Dean in the College of Education for the last decade, resigned. The College welcomed Kate Steffens as our Interim Dean. Kate has been a trusted leader in the College as a past Associate Dean and as the coordinator of our last NCATE review. We had a brief interlude from changes until November when Carleen Guck, our Office Manager since last December moved to the Social Work department. Kelli Schreiner from the SPARC Office began as our new Office Manager at the end of November. This is more change in one semester than I can remember in my 20+ years at SCSU. I have been impressed with our student staff, graduate assistants and faculty who have kept the department moving forward through all of these changes with their flexibility, and positive, welcoming atti-

tude. As a chair person returning from a sabbatical leave, I really appreciated the willingness of everyone in the department to adapt to all of the changes.

We decided as a faculty to focus on marketing and recruitment for our graduate programs as one of our goals for the year. The rebirth of a newsletter is one of the steps that we are taking to reach out to our current and former students as well Early Childhood Programs in our region. We will send our newsletter out 3 times a year with information about upcoming classes, department and college initiatives, faculty activities and resources. In this newsletter we introduce some of the new faces in our department and share information about scholarship opportunities for both graduate and undergraduate students. I welcome your feedback about the newsletter and ideas for additional content.

Glen Palm CFS Dept Chair

## Jane Minnema (from page 1)

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While enjoying many of the opportunities offered by SCSU, she is especially enjoying the challenge of impacting future teachers' skills and attitudes. It is especially exciting to her to face a weekly challenge of crafting a presentation of critical information that will spark students' creative energy. She finds that she is surrounded by continual opportunities to learn—especially from her students. Just as in practice, she remains grateful for the opportunity to touch the lives of families with children with disabilities in a meaningful way. In the short-term, Jane is anticipating studying abroad in Italy with CFS faculty and students

during spring break, 2006. Her hope is to bring new information home that will support increased inclusion of young children with disabilities in various preschool educational models. In the meantime, she is simply enjoying each day at SCSU as a professor—her newly realized lifetime ambition!

*“She is especially enjoying the challenge of impacting future teachers’ skills and attitudes.”*

## Resources to Check Out

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There are two new organizations in Minnesota the CFS students and alumni should check out for useful information and resources. The first is the Minnesota Fathers and Families Network (MFFN). This organization provides information, resources, workshops and an annual summit on fatherhood and family related issues. The MFFN website [www.mnfathers.org](http://www.mnfathers.org) is a good resource for learning more about fatherhood programs, and resources in Minnesota as well as links to other interesting websites.

The Minnesota Association for Family and Early Education (MNAFEE) is another new professional organization for administrators, practitioners, and advocates for high quality family and early education services for familiar with young children in Minnesota. The MNAFEE website will connect you to a calendar of important events, resources, position opportunities and more. Visit the MNAFEE website at [www.mnafee.org](http://www.mnafee.org).



# CFS Scholarships for Undergraduate Students

# Upcoming Events— Important Dates

## Golden Rule Scholarship

Size: \$500 (1 per year)

Eligibility: Juniors or Seniors majoring in Early Childhood Education with a 2.75 or higher cumulative GPA and planning to teach B-3rd grade using music theory as a literacy base.

## Jack Mavala Scholarship

Size: \$300 (1 per year)

Eligibility: Juniors or Seniors majoring in Early childhood education with preference given to single parents who have financial need and a 2.75 or higher cumulative GPA.

## Kathryn Kelly Scholarship

Size: \$500 (1 per year)

Eligibility: Juniors or Seniors majoring in Early Childhood Education with a 2.75 or higher cumulative GPA, are from rural Minnesota, have a financial need, and are not a recipient of athletic grants or scholarships.

## Olga B. Satre Hart Mem. Scholarship

Size: \$1000 (1 per year)

Eligibility: Juniors or Seniors majoring in Early Childhood Education with a 2.75 or higher cumulative GPA and have established a financial need.

### **Application Checklist for all**

**Scholarships:** scholarship application, essay, resume, transcripts—copies are acceptable, and letter of recommendation from SCSU faculty.

**If interested in applying, you may pick up an application in the CFS Office, EB B109.**

**ALL APPLICATIONS ARE DUE TO THE CFS OFFICE BY MARCH 1ST**

**\*\*Additional scholarships for education majors can be found at the SCSU website [www.stcloudstate.edu/financial\\_aid](http://www.stcloudstate.edu/financial_aid)\*\***

## Important Dates—Spring

### Semester 2006

- **Registration for Summer**—Begins February 13
- **Spring Break**—March 6-10
- **Advising Session for CFS major & minor**—April 3, 4:00pm, EB B108
- **Dessert Fest**—April 19, 7:00pm
- **Final Exams**—May 8-12
- **Graduation**

\*Graduate Hooding and

Commencement—May 14 (morning)

\*Undergraduate Commencement—May 14 (afternoon)

# Financial Aid Opportunities for Graduate Students

The rising cost of tuition and travel make graduate study a financial challenge for many of our graduate students.

We want to make CFS graduate students aware of some of the opportunities that may assist you while you are enrolled in a graduate program.

## Graduate Assistantships in CFS

The CFS department has two graduate assistant positions available for fall 2006. These positions provide a stipend of \$9,700 for 20 hours of work per week and \$4,850 for 10 hours of work per week for the academic year. Also, up to 8 credits of tuition will be paid per semester for a total of up to 16 credits for the academic year. Contact the CFS Office for an application. These are due by May 1st for the positions for the 2006-07 academic year.

In addition to the graduate assistant positions, here are a few scholarship opportunities that SCSU offers that may assist some of our current CFS graduate students.

## Grace McDowall Endowed Scholarship

Deadline: April 1

Award: \$500-\$700 (1)

Open to: Female students 35 years or older. Part-time or full-time. GPA 2.75 or above. Contact Women's Center.

## Shirley Schrader Scholarship

Deadline: March 15

Award: \$1,000 (1-4)

Open to: Women admitted to the School of Graduate Studies program who are 30 years or older. Enrolled for a minimum of 6 credits per semester and a U.S. resident or citizen. Contact the Graduate Studies Office.

## Collen and Jan Petters Scholarship

Deadline: April 1

Award: \$650 (1)

Open to: Nontraditional female students. Must be at least a half-time student. Contact the Women's Center.

## Graduate Deans Distinction Scholarships

Deadline: March 15

Award: \$2,000 (3)

Open to: Newly admitted graduate students who are U.S. citizens or residents and will begin studies in the fall semester. Undergraduate GPA of 3.5 or better and enrolled for at least 9 graduate credits for each semester the scholarship is awarded. Contact the Graduate Studies Office.



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St. Cloud, MN 56301

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Fax: 320-308-0908  
E-mail: [kjschreiner@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:kjschreiner@stcloudstate.edu)

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## CFS Graduate Programs—Some Common Questions

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**Some of the common questions that are asked about CFS graduate programs.**

***“Do you have to get a Master’s Degree to get the Parent Education or ECSE license?”***

*No, graduate level licensure in CFS can be obtained in two ways. Students can apply to the Graduate studies Office as either a Fifth Year Licensure student or as an M.S. student in Early Childhood Special Education or Family Studies. Fifth Year licensure programs are designed to meet specific licensure requirements and are a direct route to obtain either an ECSE license or a Parent Educator license. Students can also choose to complete the licensure requirement as part of their Master’s Program and typically finish the license and then complete their thesis or starred paper projects at a later time.*

***“Can I get the Early Childhood license (Birth-Grade3) as a graduate student?”***

*Our department currently does not offer the Birth-Grade 3 license at the graduate level. The Birth-Grade 3 license was designed as an undergraduate major program that includes 79 semester credits to complete while the typical Master’s program is 32-36 semester credits. Most of the required classes for the Birth—Grade 3 license are only offered at the undergraduate level. If you currently hold a Prekindergarten license or a K-Grade 6 license you may be able to complete the Birth-Grade 3 licensure requirements by taking a combination of graduate and undergraduate courses. Contact the department to set up an appointment to review the requirements that you would need to complete to be recommended for the Birth-Grade 3 license.*

***“Can I complete your graduate program on-line?”***

*We are currently experimenting with a couple of our core courses to develop on-line or hybrid on-line options for students, however it is currently not possible to complete our graduate programs totally on-line. Most of our graduate classes are offered during the evening or on weekends during the school year. We also offer some ITV classes. Our summer offerings are frequently in a condensed format to cut down on travel and longer time frame commitments. We are trying to balance student needs for flexibility with quality of instruction in our course offerings as we explore new ways to blend technology with more traditional instruction.*



CFS Student Workers—  
Suzanne Zelinko and Renee Butler