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## Summer 2005

Graduate School of Humanities & Social Sciences

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## SHSS RECOGNIZED FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AT THE STUEY AWARDS

### Upcoming Events:

- School-wide Luncheon— June 22
- Start of Fall Trimester – September 12
- Conference on Solution Focused Practices – November 3- 5

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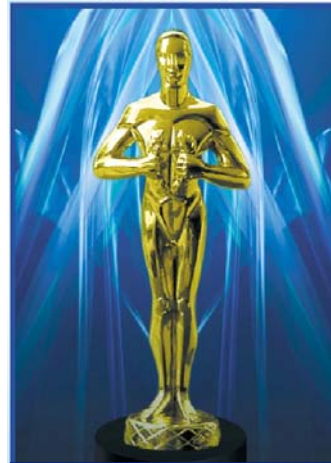
The 2005 Student Life Achievement Awards (Stueys) were held on April 19 at the Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center. Stuey Awards were given to the university's best in leadership, scholarship, service, integrity, commitment, involvement, and responsibility. Award categories include: Female athlete, corporate partner, professor, academic dean, alumnus, staff person, administrator, graduate organization, undergraduate organization, Greek organization, co-curricular adviser, male athlete, extended community member, and student of the year.

Several individuals from the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences were nominated and chosen as finalists for the prestigious Stuey Awards.

**Dr. Debra Nixon**, Assistant Professor of Family Therapy,



won in the co-curricular adviser of the year category for her work with the SHSS Student Association.

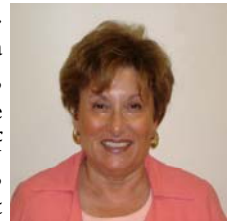


A celebration of NSU's best in leadership, scholarship, service, integrity, commitment, involvement and responsibility.

Dr. Nixon is a student-centered professor and has been serving as a faculty adviser for the SHSS Student Association, for the past two years. She is a good listener, sensitive to student's concerns and suggestions, and a warm supporter for student initiatives and activities. She embodies the scholarship of engagement and outreach. Dr. Nixon has also provided the SHSS SA

with the support it needed to initiate an endowed scholarship fund. The scholarship fund will be used for SHSS students' financial assistance. This will be the first scholarship established by the Student Association in SHSS history.

**Dr. Marcia Sweedler**, Associate Chair of DCAR, Assistant Professor,



was chosen as a finalist for the Professor of the Year Award. Dr. Sweedler sets the bar high for her students to help them succeed. She has strong commitment to each student, to learning, and to NSU. She always has time to discuss academic and career goals with her students. She also helps students find solutions to their problems on exams and papers.

The SHSS Student Association was chosen as a finalist for the Graduate Organization of the Year Award. The SA has planned social and academic events that benefit SHSS students, including a wonderful social/networking activity for each



## FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

**Dr. Tommie Boyd, Chair, Department of Family Therap/Assistant Professor**, presented a workshop in Tampa at the University of South Florida on "How to become a Registered Intern and Licensure Updates" 4/2/04.

**Dr. Chris Burnett, Assistant Professor of Family Therapy**, recently was invited to be a guest presenter for the prestigious American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) Winter Institutes for Advanced Clinical Training, held this year in Panama City, Florida from March 2nd - 6th. The AAMFT Advanced Clinical Institutes are recognized as being the profession's highest profile continuing education forum, and this is the second time in 4 years that Dr. Burnett has been invited to participate as a faculty member.

The title of Dr. Burnett's 4 day workshop was "MFT's in the Corporate Marketplace: Systems Thinking and Organizational Consulting". During his training, Dr. Burnett utilized his knowledge of cybernetic systems, language systems, and natural systems metaphors to help participants translate their clinically based human relationship skills into settings and contexts outside of the therapy setting. Drawing upon his own experiences as a "Human Systems Consultant", Dr. Burnett also shared with participants case studies drawn from his own work in corporate, governmental, not-for-profit, and family business settings. In doing so, he demonstrated how systems thinking can be successfully applied across the widest variety of situations when the common goal of doing so is the betterment of human relationships.

**Dr. Julia Chaitin, Assistant Professor of Conflict Resolution and Peace Studies**, spent the winter semester on faculty flexibility leave in Israel. While in Israel Dr. Chaitin has been:

- Writing a book on social, cultural, and political issues connected to Israel and Kibbutz Life - the tentative title is "Notes from Israel and the Kibbutz: Reflections of a Jewish-American-Israeli Woman"
- Participating in activities connected to peace/co-existence with Israeli Bedouin and Palestinians
- Chaired a panel discussion on "Visual representation - Modes of Opposition" at a one-day conference that was held at Ben Gurion University of the Negev on March 5, 2005. The name of the conference was: "Violence and Opposition in the Israeli-Palestinian Context."
- Working on an article: "Undertaking Qualitative Methodology in Complex,

Conflictual Societies" together with Dr. Lea Kacen of BGU.

**Dr. Pat Cole, Associate Professor of Family Therapy and Family Business**, and Kit Johnson, Ph.D., Barry University, presented the workshop, "Resilient Relationships: Working with a Partner after Divorce", on April 1, 2005 at the Barry University Annual Alumni Conference. This is the first of 5 presentations, based on their collaborative research project that they will present throughout the year.

**Dr. Mark Davidheiser, Assistant Professor of Conflict Resolution and Anthropology**, recently had the following refereed articles accepted for publication:

- "Harmony, Peacemaking, and Power: Controlling Processes and African Mediation." Forthcoming in *Conflict Resolution Quarterly*. 23:2.
- "Fictive Kinship and Conflict Resolution: The Role and Uses of 'Tradition' In Gambian Peacemaking." *Cahiers d'Etudes Africaines*;
- "Mediation and Multiculturalism: Domestic and International Challenges." *Intractable Conflict Knowledge Base*. Available online at [www.beyondintractability.org/m/mediation\\_multiculturalism.jsp](http://www.beyondintractability.org/m/mediation_multiculturalism.jsp).

He also spoke on "Human Nature and the Social Construction of Aggression and Violence," as an invited speaker for a panel discussion on "Aggression and the Effects of Terror" for Paul Bremer's visit to FCAS on February 16.

**Dr. Fran Fassman, Associate Principal Investigator for the Community Nutrition Awareness Project**, participated in the STEP-UP Florida event on February 17 at Riverfront in Fort Lauderdale. Dr. Fassman also dedicated a garden to the Noble A. McArtor Adult Day Care Center on February 21. The CNAP staff and volunteers created special raised containers to make gardening easier for the senior citizens.

**Dr. Douglas Flemons, Director of Brief Therapy Institute and NSU Student Counselling/Professor of Family Therapy**, recently published articles/book chapters:

- Flemons, D. (2005). Hypnosis and Relaxation Scripting. In G. P. Koocher, J. C. Norcross, & S. S. Hill (Eds.), *Psychologists' desk reference (2nd ed.)* (pp.

332-337). Oxford: Oxford University Press.

- Flemons, D. (2005). May the Pattern be with you. *Cybernetics and Human Knowing*, 12(1&2).
- Green, S., & Flemons, D. (2005). *From Lingua Franca to Scriptio Animi: Carolyn Ellis's writing of the heart*. In N. Denzin (Ed.), *Studies in Symbolic Interaction: A Research Annual*, Vol. 28. New York: Elsevier.

Dr. Flemon's presentations included:

- Flemons, D. (2004, Dec.). *Hypnotherapy as a Jazz Duet: Principles of Improvisation*. 3-hour workshop presented at The Ninth International Congress on Ericksonian Approaches to Hypnosis and Psychotherapy. Phoenix, Arizona.
- Flemons, D., & Green, S. (2005, Feb.). *Quickies: Brief Approaches to Sex Therapy*. 6-hour keynote for the Kentucky Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Louisville, KY.

Dr. Flemons also participated in the STEP-UP event, a state wide initiative promoting physical activity and wellness on February 17, by providing at Tai Chi demonstration.

**Dr. Alexia Georgakopoulos, Assistant Professor of Conflict Resolution and Communication**, has been coordinating the faculty efforts for the upcoming Common Ground Film Festival in June.

**Dr. Shelley Green, Associate Professor of Family Therapy**, presented the keynote address at the annual conference of the Kentucky Association for Marriage and Family Therapy on February 25 in Louisville, KY along with Dr. Flemons. They also delivered a day-long workshop entitled "Quickies: Working Briefly with Clients' Sexual Issues".

**Dr. John Linstroth, Assistant Professor of Conflict Resolution and Anthropology**, lectured on the anthropological considerations of the Troubled Images Exhibition collection in relation to the Northern Ireland Conflict on February 9 at the Alvin Sherman Library. He was also an invited speaker for a panel discussion on "Aggression and the Effects of Terror" for Paul Bremer's visit to the FCAS on February 16.

*Continued from p. 2*

**Dr. Susanne Marshall, Director of the MACS Program, Special Assistant to the Dean for Academic Affairs,** has taken over leadership of the SHSS marketing team.

**Dr. Debra Nixon, Assistant Professor of Family Therapy/Advisor for SHSS Student Association,** presented a workshop entitled "Diversity Conversations: Creating a Redemptive Atmosphere" on January 21 in the Alumni Hall Auditorium. She was also nominated for the 2005 African American Achievement Award sponsored by the Jim Moran Foundation.

**Deweese Eunick** was promoted from her position as Receptionist at SHSS to the Administrative Assistant for the Department of Conflict Analysis and Resolution.

**Keandra Fulton, Marketing Coordinator,** was nominated by SHSS in the Staff Person of the Year category for the 2005 Student Life Achievement Awards.

**Christine Hellkamp, Operations Coordinator,** was inducted into the Alpha Chi National Honor Society on April 1st. This honor is given to only 80 undergraduate junior and senior students, out of 5,000.

**Michelle Proulx** joined SHSS's Brief Therapy Institute (BTI) on February 14 as the evening receptionist. She is a 2<sup>nd</sup> year Psy.D. student at NSU.

**Lisa Wallen, has been promoted from Administrative Assistant of Student Affairs** to Student Services Coordinator.

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## STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS

**Margaret Mitchell Armand, DCAR,** published an essay entitled *The Descent of the Lwa: Journey Through Haitian Mythology: The Works of Hersza Barjon* at the Center for Black Studies Art Book, University of California in December 2004.

**Michael A. Fonkem, DCAR,** contributed an article to the *Journal for the Study of Peace and Conflict*, "The Democratic Struggle in Cameroon: Some Setbacks in the Nonviolent Approach." Fonkem Achankeng I, is a traditional ruler in Cameroon, Humphrey fellow, and ad hoc faculty at the University of Wisconsin, Fox Valley and Marian College in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.

The following students successfully defended their dissertations:

- **Bini Litwin, DCAR,** Playing on the Boy's Team: The Success Narratives of Executive Women in Healthcare – March 1
- **Dee Lexandra, DFT,** Client Voices On Recovery from Alcohol and Drug Abuse: "What Works" – April 7
- **Adele Sullivan, DCAR,** A Qualitative Study Of The Perceived Impact Of Management Training In Conflict Resolution In A Hospital – March 11

**Jane Dye, Ph.D., DFT Alumna,** is in private practice in Lake Worth, FL. Recently, her local newspaper wrote an article about her practice and the use of Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) for hurricane post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) symptoms.

**Robert Keller, DCAR Alumnus,** will be directing the 2005 IPF Men's World Power lifting Championships together with the IPF Pan-American Championships this November 8-13, 2005. The event will be held in the JL Knight Center in Miami, Florida.

It is expected that some 250-300 athletes shall attend this year's championship. <http://www.ipfworlds.com>

**Jeff Krepps, Ph.D., DFT Alumnus,** began a position as an Assistant Professor of Marriage and Family Therapy at East Carolina University, in the Department of Child Development and Family Relations in August 2004. In addition, his wife Cheyenne Corbett, a doctoral candidate in Family Therapy at SHSS is expecting the couple's second child on September 29.

**Bini Litwin, Ph.D., M.B.A., DCAR Alumna,** was recently selected to attend a Cultural Diversity Summer Institute offered through the University of Southern California from July 6-9, 2005. This project is sponsored by a grant from the Bureau of Health Professions and is designed to support academic and clinical faculty from the professions of Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Dental Hygiene who are interested in integrating cultural competence into curricula and community or clinical experiences to enable students to provide culturally competent care. She will be attending the Institute as part of an interdisciplinary team comprised of 2 physical therapists and 2 occupational therapists.

**Dr. Florence Ross, DCAR Alumna,** contributed her thoughts to *Aging Today*, the bimonthly newspaper of the American Society of Aging. She currently serves on the advisory board for SHSS and chairs the Institute for Peacemaking Elders. Dr. Ross was featured in a March 20<sup>th</sup> article in the Miami Herald entitled "Senior leads crusade for world peace." Dr. Ross is a founding member of the Institute for Peacemaking Elders housed at SHSS.

## FROM THE DEAN'S DESK

### Dear SHSS Students and Alumni,

Greetings everyone! Welcome to the summer trimester. We have several exciting developments in this issue of the SHSS Dialogs.

The SHSS Student Association has initiated an endowed scholarship fund. It will be used for SHSS students' financial assistance. We would like to thank the Student Association for their efforts in supporting fellow students.

According to preliminary plans, SHSS may make a move to the Maltz Building on Main Campus in Davie between late July and early August. We look forward to more collaborative opportunities with the Center for Psychological Studies (CPS).

The two sister schools have many shared interests and we appreciate CPS' cooperative efforts in making this a smooth transition.

I will continue to hold office hours every Wednesday from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. In addition, I am also available for individual appointments. If you should need to make such an appointment, please contact my assistant Ann Zomerfeld via email at [zomerfeld@nsu.nova.edu](mailto:zomerfeld@nsu.nova.edu) or 1-800-541-6682 extension 3048.

Have a great, productive summer!

**Honggang Yang**

Dean, SHSS



## SHSS ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAM EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS

Open House was held on January 28. Prospective students heard testimonials from SHSS alumni as well as presentations from Department Chairs and Faculty members.

The 12<sup>th</sup> Residential Institute for online students was held February 12-16 with over 150 distance students from 38 states and 8 countries in attendance. Keynote speakers included Dr. Mara Schiff who spoke on "Defining Restorative Justice: A Case for Principles" and Janice Fleischer, J.D. who spoke on "Public Policy Conflict Resolution: Facilitating in the Real World."

The SHSS Student Association sponsored a Mardi Gras party on February 13 in the Alumni Hall Auditorium for student attending Residential Institute. The event featured, caricaturists, stilt walkers, fire eaters, beads, masks and many other Mardi Gras themed activities.

Faculty talks were also given during the Residential Institute. Dr. Judith McKay, Chair of the Department of Conflict Analysis and Resolution/Assistant Professor spoke on "The Integration of Theory, Substance, and Practice: The Business of Consulting with Organizations." Dr. Marie Olson Lounsbury, Assistant Professor of DCAR, spoke on "Potential Exit Strategies for Iraq: lessons from the Past." Dr. Julia Chaitin, Assistant Professor of DCAR, spoke on "Palestine-Israel: Current Issues in War and Peace." Finally, Dr. Marcia Sweedler, Associate Chair of DCAR/Assistant Professor spoke on "Women, War, and Human Rights."

The M.S. in College Student Affairs degree program will begin in the Fall of 2005.

SHSS collaborated with the NSU Library and FCAS in developing a series of activities pertaining to the Troubled Images Exhibition at the Alvin Sherman Library.

The Celebration of Excellence was held January 24 at the Signature Grande. Department of Family Therapy alumna, Fanya Jabouin-Monnay, was the recipient of the NSU Distinguished Alumni Award.

The SHSS clinics, Brief Therapy Institute (BTI) and Community Resolution Services (CRS) will be moving to the Maltz Building on April 22. The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) will be taking over the space at the back of the East Campus

The School-wide Luncheon was held on January 26. American Express Awards were presented at the luncheon to:

- **Francesca Angiuli**, Office Manager, Brief Therapy Institute (BTI)
- **Marci Arango**, Student Recruitment Coordinator
- **Pat Cole**, Associate Professor, Family Therapy
- **Fran Fassman**, Associate Principle Investigator (CNAP)
- **Racquel Gibson**, Program Coordinator, Family Therapy
- **Shelley Green**, Associate Professor, Family Therapy
- **Noreen Hartman**, Administrative Assistant, Family Therapy
- **Marie Olson Lounsbury**, Assistant Professor, Conflict Analysis & Resolution
- **Lee Shazier**, Program Coordinator, Conflict Analysis & Resolution
- **Cody Smith**, Computer Applications Coordinator/Webmaster
- **Marcia Sweedler**, Associate Chair/Assistant Professor, Conflict Analysis & Resolution

## SHSS STUDENTS SPEAK UP ON DIVERSITY

Marriage and Family Therapy, as a discipline, offers many exciting challenges and insights to individuals who utilize and practice it. Graduate therapists in training have the unique opportunity to see clients with new eyes and understandings because, in part, of the wonderful learning dynamics presented in their Diversity course taught by Dr. Debra Nixon, Assistant Professor of Family Therapy. Dr. Nixon, also the SHSS Student Association Advisor, passionately invites students to look deeply into themselves; into the known and the not-yet-known influences that inform and possibly direct their therapeutic and non therapeutic social responses. The emphasis is directed inwardly, as she believes that “social and relational change must begin with the individual.”

Below is a dialog between Dr. Nixon and three of her students. Dr. Nixon’s students approached the SHSS Dialogs Newsletter and requested to share their excitement and new found knowledge with the rest of the SHSS community. This facilitated dialog offers others a glimpse into the Diversity course process. Dr. Nixon and each of her students responded to each question to present their unique perspectives on the course and on diversity issues.

**Q:** What is your name, degree pursued and academic status?

**JB:** My name is Jewell Bexley. I am pursuing a Ph.D. in Marriage and Family Therapy. I was the T.A. for the Diversity course in Fall 2004.

**LG:** Lauryn Gilliam. I’m pursuing my Masters in Marriage and Family Therapy with a certificate in Medical Collaboration/ Family Systems Healthcare.

**JM:** My name is Jason McGuire and I’m achieving my M.S. in Marriage and Family Therapy with great excitement.

**Q:** When you decided to register for Dr. Nixon’s Diversity course what were your initial expectations of the experience?

**JB:** I expected a fair, thorough, and neutral perspective on all diverse issues.

**LG:** My initial expectations of Dr. Nixon’s course were that we would be taught about how diversity played a part in the therapy room, what to look for, how to handle it, and possibly be exposed to some information on different cultures.

**JM:** I attended Dr. Nixon’s first workshop on *Diversity Conversations* about a year ago here at SHSS. In that single three hours I learned some wonderful and ugly things about myself, my biases, my prejudices, and my responses to people different from me. In that wonderful experience of meeting myself more fully, (in just three hours) I had tremendous expectations for a full semester course. She did not disappoint me.

**Q:** Dr Nixon, what were your expectations for this course?

**DN:** My goal was to be fair, but I knew being neutral was impossible. What I did want to do was to be honest about my lack of neutrality, and I believe that I succeeded at doing that. I believe, too, that my honesty about my biases made it reasonable for students to do the same. Although such admittance (my bias again) did not come easily for me or the students.

**Q:** You all seem to have varying expectations of the class. Did the class meet, fall short of, or exceed those expectations and how so?



**Maru Gregory-Torres, Christopher Brooks, and Regina Ravachi dress up in the traditional garb of their cultures on the last day of class.**

**JB:** The class met my expectations. I believe the whole class benefited from expanding beyond solely Black & White, hetero/homosexual, or men/women issues. We covered: Native American, Asian, Black Caribbean issues; religious vs. spiritualist vs. atheist issues; political power (influences); and the poor, uneducated, or unmotivated (within each culture). Of course, this is my take on things. What about you Lauryn?

**LG:** This class exceeded my expectations in so many ways. I entered the class believing that I was a person who had no "isms" poisoning me; that I was able to see and love everyone in the same way without prejudice. I believed that even though I knew I would be working with people different than myself, that it would not pose an issue for me, and that I would be able to understand and help them all the same. Dr. Nixon, the reading material, the videos, the class discussions and the projects really opened the door for me to understand that there was so much more to this class than I had expected. And honestly, I was not sure I was really up for the task, but I stuck it out.

**JM:** This class went far beyond my expectations. Dr. Nixon has an incredible gift of teaching with her ability in being honest with her own biases and prejudices while also maintaining integrity as a caring, compassionate person. She welcomed the growing pains of each of us as we faced hidden assumptions and not-so-pretty truths; and she cared for us in our healing. This course was by far that most introspective course I've had in my entire academic career.

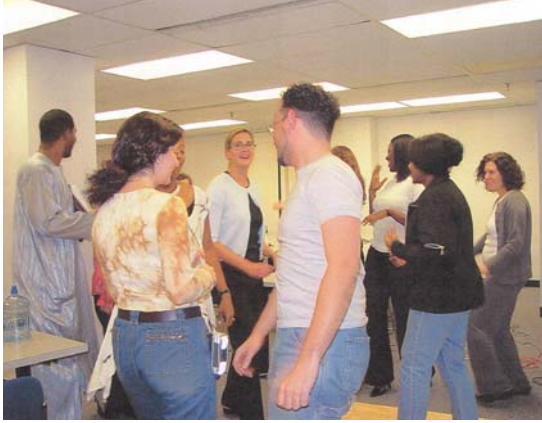
**DN:** First let me respond to Jason's comments. I was not aware that I was 'caring for' them in their "healing." I guess I was being empathic and sympathetic as I was fully aware of my own "healing" needs. (laughs). Also, I watched Lauryn struggle with herself as she commented on readings and videos. I was excited to see her challenge herself, something that most of the students found the courage to do. Now, in the class we talked about difference in as many forms that it presents itself in our culture (human culture). In all honesty, I scheduled more time on the issue of "race" than any topic, as I believe that is has been and continues to be the most vile and demoralizing of any human construction. In terms of expectations, I have learned not to expect anything, but to be open to what happens. Now, I have goals for the class-the syllabus is clear and compelling (I hope). But the only thing that I truly expect is to challenge *myself* more each class and allow the students and the course's content to transform me further. It is quite a personal journey.

**Q:** During the course, what did you learn about yourself that was unexpected and what meaning did that awareness add to your life?

**JB:** I learned I needed to be open to and patient with those that were "less aware" of their diversity "stuckness." I learned I could not force others to see what they were not ready to see about themselves. This made me sad. I later accepted perhaps my purpose was to 'just plant the seed'.

**LG:** I am able to see that although I am a loving, giving, and caring person, it does not eliminate me from being a *human* in today's world. The course's contents opened my eyes to the fact that there is racism in the world today. It helped me to understand that aside from people who look like me, there are many other things that come with people of different cultures such as: grieving traditions, dress, communication, family systems hierarchies, and traditions with the raising of children, taking care of the parents, and even treatment of spouses. Some of these traditions are very different from my own. Had a client come into the therapy room presenting with these issues, I might have reacted to them in a way that was more biased (by my own beliefs and upbringing); it would have been completely inappropriate, and I would have been of no help to the client. Dr. Nixon and her class helped me to be a more authentic person and realize my strengths and weaknesses (as well as others). But most importantly I learned to be accepting of both (strengths and weaknesses that is) and understand how they work for me.

**JM:** I learned that my Midwestern, Nebraska values are very kind, open, generous, and, yet ignorant of the personal experiences of those from different cultures. In that ignorance, I've been explicitly challenged while unknowingly accepting many racial and bigoted assumptions about people that are 'other' than me. Being able to look at myself more fully and to participate in a group that was doing the same thing allowed me to know that it was okay that have both beautiful and ugly assumptions in my life because it's not having or getting rid of them that's important but how I respond to others with them that matters.



**Students interacting with one another during Diversity class.**

**DN:** Nicely put Jason, for me, I try to spend more time on "getting it" myself. There is always something to learn. Although, I do see my job as translating or interpreting the course's contents so students can get it—or get something valuable. I also see this the same way as I see clients' change; I can only be responsible for my part in the relationship; the other part is up to them. So if students fail to "get it" or "get something" then that's a missed opportunity. This way of thinking works for me, as my style of teaching places as much emphasis on what students bring to the teaching/learning endeavor as it does to what I bring. Its a collaboration, much like it is with clients (at least that's my goal).

**Q:** Would you recommend this course to your fellow students and if so why?

**JB:** Yes, I would recommend the course to fellow students. The course opens the doors to greater awareness of oneself and mankind. It contributes

to the action of 'healing the world.' "We Are The World, We Are the Children, We Are The Ones...!"

**DN:** (Laughing) Jewell is singing "We are the World" because we had so many mushy moments in class that seem to come right out of one of those overdone, tear-jerky commercials about humanitarianism. So whenever we'd have one of those moments, truly beautiful moments, someone would start singing that song. I believe it was our way of keeping the intensity down. There were many times I felt like I could cry.

**LG:** Absolutely, I would recommend this class to others in the program and in fact I would recommend to the program coordinators that this class be suggested to students to take before they begin their first practicum. Dr. Nixon is a dynamic teacher, a communicator, a challenger of spirits and a challenging educator. Dr. Nixon does not just teach by the readings and the coursework alone, she gives assignments that provoke thought and require us as students and as therapists to dig for answers so that we leave the class not "with" tools, but "as" tools so that we possess all that we need to help clients. She gives examples and she is willing to learn things about herself as we learn from her. Diversity talk is a beautiful thing but it can put up barriers. Some of the barriers we don't even know are there and we do not want to admit that they are there. Dr. Nixon helped me to see this and I walked away from this class a better student, a better therapist, and a better person.

**JM:** I agree with Lauryn in recommending that this course be required of students before they begin their first practicum. Being from Nebraska I came to South Florida and experienced some culture shock from within my peers in the gay community as well as from the Latino population, the Islanders, and the big city communities. This course, and more specifically Dr. Nixon's persona touched me, opened my mind, heart and soul to people from diverse backgrounds; it's helped me immensely in my two Practica thus far.

**DN:** "We are the World. . ." (laughing). I would recommend this course to Human Resource Departments, Presidents, VP's (all administrators), faculty and staff members. I see this course as the missing link in human relations. No joke. I believe in what I'm doing. It is not about learning about "others" as much as it is learning about ourselves. It is about becoming conscious of how what we've been taught about others and ourselves is biased and probably untrue. This course is about confronting those "lies" and doing something different in future relationships. As I mentioned early, it's personal. For me, there is no other way to truly be in an open, growing, productive relationship. And that's what we are trying to teach out students: "how to be in a therapeutic relationship with clients that could lead to positive change." To do this requires that we go far beyond the usual politically correct (PC) and get as incorrect as you possibly can. For me, behind the PC mask is the real human relationship.

Thank you all for sharing your experiences about your Diversity class with the SHSS Dialogues Newsletter. The course seems to offer students a unique opportunity to challenge themselves personally, in a way that seems to contribute to their professional growth. At first glance, Dr. Nixon's objectives for the Diversity class appear to be beyond the score of Marriage and Family Therapy academic training. Yet, it makes sense to me now that a self-aware therapist will be more effective not just in therapeutic practice but in the diverse and/or global community.



*Continued from p. 1*

Residential Institute, giving out of town students the opportunity to get involved in the SHSS community and keep busy during their week on campus. The SA has also recently established an endowed scholarship fund for SHSS students.



**Whole Foods Market of Plantation** was chosen as a finalist for the Corporate Partner of the Year Award. From the beginning of the Community Nutrition Awareness Project (CNAP) at SHSS, the staff at Whole Foods Market of Plantation have been supportive, enthusiastic, and involved—researching how their company could be a partner and visiting the garden, donating seeds and herb plants, offering their offices for meetings, and making space in their store for brochures and announcements.

**Robert Hosea, DCAR student**, was chosen as SHSS Student of the Year. He was presented with a Stuey Award by Dean Honggang Yang at the beginning of the award ceremony. Robert has demonstrated academic excellence and the collaborative spirit that is the hallmark of a great leader and educator. He is a cofounder of the DCAR Student Action Network, formed in 2003, which seeks to provide a mentoring infrastructure for all students and alumni.



**Fanya Jabouin-Monnay, DFT alumna**, was chosen as a finalist for the Alumna of the Year Award. Fanya graduated from SHSS in 1997 with her master's degree in family therapy. She later became the family counselor at Northside Elementary School, where most students enter school speaking only Haitian Creole and belong to impoverished families. She has received numerous awards, including the 2001 Broward County School Board Best of the Best Award.

## SHSS INTERNSHIP/PRACTICUM FAIR: A JOINT VENTURE WITH COMMUNITY SERVICE SITES

The Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS) sponsored its annual Internship/Practicum Fair on Friday, May 6 in the Alumni Hall Auditorium. Over 50 internship and practicum sites from Broward, Palm Beach, and Dade counties were in attendance.

The fair presented an exchange between representatives from placement sites with current and potential internship and practicum students from both the Department of Conflict Analysis and Resolution and the Department of Marriage and Family Therapy. Students had the opportunity to meet with site representatives to discuss the possibilities, requirements and rewards of future placements.



This combined effort by the two departments to gather SHSS community outreach partners in a single event offered a unique opportunity for students and members of the NSU community to witness in action the professional disciplines that SHSS promotes.

Robert Oller, D.O., Chief Executive Officer of Health Care Systems in NSU's Health Professions Division was acknowledged with a plaque during the fair for his outstanding contributions and enduring support of SHSS' community outreach and clinic services over the years.



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Danielle Kandel will become the first graduate of the Master of Arts in Cross-disciplinary Studies (MACS) program during this year's June 25th Commencement Ceremony. Danielle has been a student in the MACS program since its launch during the Winter 2004 trimester.

Danielle's educational background includes a B.A. in psychology and communications. Her liberal arts background made it difficult for her to decide what direction she wanted her career to go in after her undergraduate graduation. Danielle spent four years working full-time as a counselor and later as a marketer before deciding to pursue graduate studies.



Danielle originally looked into the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences prior to the launch of the MACS. However, the Department of Family Therapy did catch her interest and she earned admission to the program. During New Student Orientation, still feeling a little wary about her decision, Danielle discovered information about the new MACS degree program while glancing through the SHSS Catalog.

Danielle was impressed by the flexibility that the MACS program offered and realized that she would be able to combine classes from both the Family Therapy and Conflict Analysis and Resolution Departments. Previous work experience had taught Danielle that in today's society it is best to have a wide range of knowledge. She knew that being able to combine classes in family therapy and conflict resolution would be extremely beneficial to her future aspirations. Danielle was also excited about the opportunity to work with talented faculty members in both areas of study and be introduced to various schools of thought on diverse topics.

Danielle is currently employed full-time and does not have any immediate plans for after graduation. However, she is keeping an eye out for positions that will allow her to utilize the knowledge she earned while enrolled in the MACS program. Working in a training or facilitation capacity has always been of interest to Danielle and she hopes that her newly gained, combined knowledge, of family therapy and conflict resolution practices will aid her in securing such a position.

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## 2005-2006 Student Association Officers

PRESIDENT: **Brandi Suttles**

VICE PRESIDENT: **Mariley Ordonez**

SECRETARY: **open position**

TRESURER: **Amy Shoosmith**

MFT REP: **Jason McGuire**

ONLINE REP: **Marina Stonewall**

INTERNATIONAL REP: **Jessica Chour**

DCAR REP: **Michelle Manley**

CROSS DISCIPLINARY REP: **Helena Zacharis**



# CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2005 GRADUATES!



## Department of Conflict Analysis and Resolution

James Anderson  
 Aanan Beda-Andourou  
 Maragret Brown  
 Leander Collier  
 Aymee Comas  
 Carlos Cruz-Carmona  
 Javier Fernandez  
 Berta Gershkowitz  
 Kathryn Gross  
 Ana Hilton  
 Dionne Hollingsworth  
 Sheree Ingram  
 Kathryn Keener  
 Nirina Kiplagat  
 Courisse Knight  
 Elisaveta Kokotanova  
 Liza Lettie  
 Iliana Levy  
 Bini Litwin  
 Steven Mason  
 Thomas Matvok  
 Kelli Mavo  
 Tracee Parker  
 Cynthia Quinones  
 Dania Rivero  
 Amy Roberts  
 Lauren Roderick  
 Jamie Royal  
 Martha Sarmiento  
 Linda Schreiber  
 Tali Simhoni  
 Candace Simpson  
 Jeryl Smith  
 Elaine Stephens  
 Barbara Strahl  
 Adele Sullivan  
 Ana Tettner

## Department of Family Therapy

Miranda Adams  
 Melissa Akturk  
 Melissa Arias  
 Kandis Bailey  
 Yolonda Barona  
 Monica Batista  
 Jasmine Bernstein  
 Doreen Blake  
 Jo Ann Boose  
 Marta Bras  
 Josephine Carey  
 Juan Cleves  
 Cristina De La Esprella  
 Eddymie Douillard  
 Monique Fraser  
 Latoya Gordon-Carty  
 Leslie Griffin  
 Mary Hale-Haniff  
 Shona Harding  
 Shanthi Holland  
 Rafiah Hollis  
 Jaime Illions  
 Amber Inman  
 Karen Kaplan  
 Sivathasnini Keyabalsinaham  
 Patricia Khabbaz  
 Jeffrey Krepps  
 Illona Labansky  
 Sophie Lanberg  
 Sophionie Lherisse  
 Graciela Luaces  
 Lewi Magali  
 Gina Marchando  
 Rosalind McGowan  
 Nneka Moncrieffe  
 Laura Morgan  
 Kimberly Muskat  
 Illana Nativ  
 Lauren Nudel

Keona O'neal  
 Emily Parks-Wareham  
 Cathy Ponczek  
 Susan Posada  
 Doriann Randle  
 Kaseania Riley-Bass  
 Isis Ruff  
 Silvana Savio  
 Viviana Tarrillion  
 Melissa Vinson  
 Jason Wasser  
 Denise Wilson  
 Stacie Woods  
 Valentina Zuman

## Master of Arts in Cross-disciplinary Studies

Danielle Kandel

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## THE BRIEF THERAPY INSTITUTE MOVES TO THE MAIN CAMPUS

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The Brief Therapy Institute (BTI), the SHSS family therapy training clinic for the MFT master's and doctoral programs, came into being in the fall of 1988 in an office building at the corner of Pine Island Road and Sunrise Blvd. in Plantation. Originally called Family Therapy Associates (FTA) but most often referred to in-house as "the clinic," it was directed by Wendel Ray (who is now the director of the famous Mental Research Institute in Palo Alto) and Sharon Boesl. With its one-way mirrors, video recording capabilities, and telephone system, the clinic has always allowed supervisors the opportunity to provide live, in-the-moment guidance, giving therapists-in-training an unparalleled learning experience.



In 1995, FTA moved to the East Campus. Housed in a two-story converted dorm, it continued to serve as the experiential core of the family therapy programs. Most people liked the funky feel of the place, but it was hard for clients to find, and not everyone appreciated the dozens of raccoons who hovered around, waiting for people to drop their sandwiches.

When Douglas Flemons took over as director in December of 2001, he renamed the clinic "The Brief Therapy Institute," underscoring the commitment to non-pathologizing brief-therapy principles in our training programs and facilitating our reaching out to the community in new ways. Such outreach efforts have been given a new boost by BTI's recent relocation to the main campus. A few weeks ago, with the summer semester in full swing, Douglas, along with Francesca Angiuli the BTI office manager, coordinated efforts with people from all over campus to get the clinic moved into the Maltz building without an interruption of service. Administrators, faculty, and staff in The Center for Psychological Studies (CPS) worked hard to make the transition as easy as possible, and they warmly welcomed our arrival.

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## NEW FACES AT SHSS!



**Adam Matheson** joined the SHSS Marketing team as a work-study student in November 2004 where helped to manage and update databases. He was offered the position of Administrative Assistant of Administrative Operations and started the position on March 28. Adam graduated in 2001 from the University of Miami's School of Business with a Bachelors of Business Administration, majoring in Computer Information Systems. Prior to joining us as a student employee, he worked at a branch of Cast Crete Corporation in Seffner, FL (near Saint Augustine). Adam is currently enrolled in the MBA program at NSU's H. Wayne Huizenga School of Business and Entrepreneurship.



**Cassandre Damas** joined SHSS on March 7 as the new receptionist/administrative assistant. Cassandre had been working at Sunrise Cinemas since July 2002 as a box office/concession cashier and also as a cashier in a temporary capacity at Broward Community College (BCC) Bookstore. Both positions have provided her with experience servicing customers and students. She graduated from BCC with an Associate Degree in Paralegal Studies in May 2004 and is now continuing those studies at NSU in the undergraduate program.

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# FAREWELLS



**Dr. Ann Booth, Senior Director of Student Affairs and Services,** will be leaving SHSS and moving to New York on May 20. Ann has worked at SHSS for 11 years, and since 2000 she has been serving as a chief student affairs officer. With an amazing track record of efficiency and effectiveness, Ann has played an essential part over the course of our School-wide advancement. Her competent service delivery, caring effort, and professional dedication for student welfare and success are steady and impressive. Her talent, expertise, and skills are multiple and remarkable. We wish Ann the best of luck in her new endeavors,. She will truly be missed.



**Dr. Fran Fassman, Associate Principal Investigator for the Community Nutrition Awareness Project (CNAP)** left SHSS on March 24. Fran has been the heart and soul of the CNAP project. Through her consistent and joyous efforts the project has grown not only in terms of the Community Garden on our East Campus, but in other gardens that have begun throughout our community, in events for children with “Snappy”, through the development of an enthusiastic board of directors and community volunteers for the garden, through participation in numerous community events, by developing a strong team of support staff, by her fostering collaborative engagement with other NSU Centers and so much more.

In addition, Fran has become an important part of our overall SHSS team, as she has participated in numerous school events and volunteered to help out whenever she saw a need. Fran’s presence will be much missed in CNAP and at SHSS. We wish her the best of luck as she pursues what promises to be a dream job for her in New York City.



Graduate School of  
Humanities and Social Sciences

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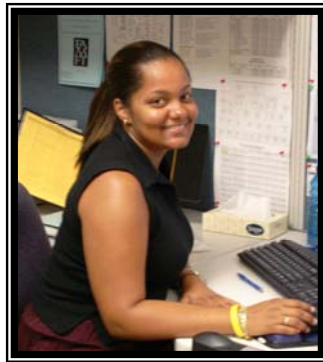
**We're on the Web!**

**[shss.nova.edu](http://shss.nova.edu)**

Nova Southeastern University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; telephone number 404-679-4501) to award bachelor's, master's educational specialist and doctoral degrees.

NSU admits students of any race, color, religion or creed, sex, pregnancy, national or ethnic origin, nondisqualifying disability, age, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, unfavorable discharge from the military, status as a disabled veteran, or political beliefs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at NSU and does not discriminate in the administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school administered programs.

The Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS) offers interdisciplinary programs in conflict analysis & resolution, family therapy, cross-disciplinary studies, college student personnel, peace studies, family studies, health care conflict resolution, family systems healthcare, advanced family systems, and joint programs with the other NSU units. SHSS is also a home of the two academic journals: "Peace and Conflict Studies," and "The Qualitative Report." For more information about SHSS, visit the website at: <http://shss.nova.edu> or us call (954) 262-3000.



Janelle Miller joined SHSS on May 9th as a receptionist/administrative assistant. Janelle most recently worked at Spherion with the Coca Cola Company in Atlanta as a project coordinator. In that role she provided customer service to owner operators and store managers. While in Atlanta, she completed her bachelor's degree in psychology at Georgia State University. Janelle is planning to continue her studies here at NSU in the master's degree program in speech-language pathology.

**Continued from p. 11**