

Fall 2001

NEIU Magazine- Fall 2001

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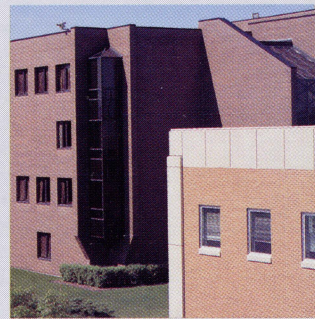
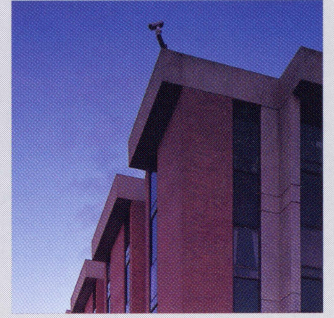
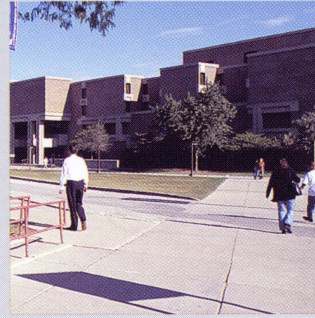
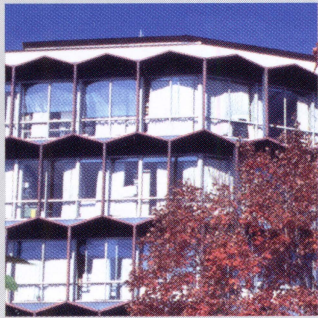
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FALL 2001

NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

M A G A Z I N E





Welcome to the first issue of the

NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE!

This new quarterly publication reflects the quality and pride we have for Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU). You will notice that the feature articles provide an opportunity to learn more about members of the NEIU family. *Campus News* highlights just a few of the many activities taking place, and *Class Notes* keeps you current on the activities of your classmates.

Keeping in touch with our alumni and friends has always been a top priority. I am always delighted with the many NEIU alumni and friends I meet at campus events. They never hesitate to mention their good experiences at NEIU, and they always look forward to coming back to campus to visit. If you have not already done so, I encourage you to reconnect with NEIU and become reacquainted with the good things happening here.

The NEIU community is large and diverse. Our students, alumni, and faculty and staff take active roles in scholarship, career development, and community and national affairs. NEIU is a recognized leader in higher education, successful in combining excellence and affordability for a quality educational experience. It is my pleasure to invite you to take a look at this new publication and share in the excitement of **our** NEIU.

Best wishes for an enjoyable fall,

Salme H. Steinberg

Salme H. Steinberg
President

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The Northeastern Illinois University Magazine is published four times a year by the University for graduates, donors and friends. Please send your comments, suggestions and news items to the Alumni Office, Northeastern Illinois University, 5500 N. St. Louis Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60625-4699.

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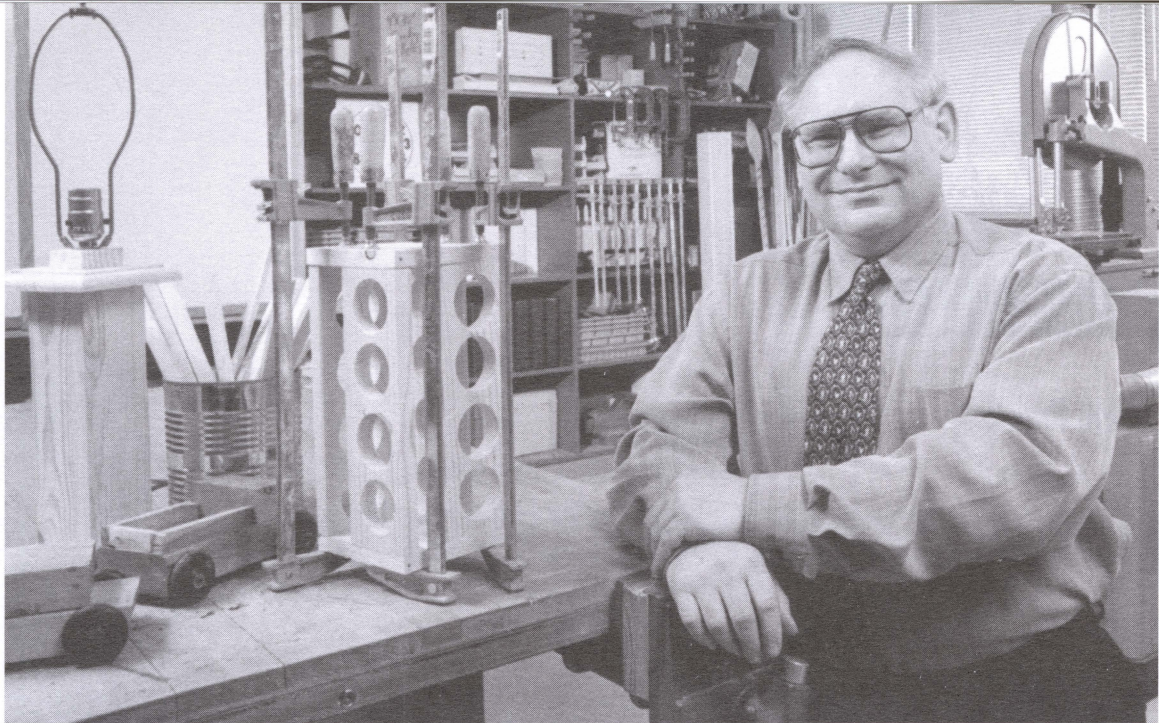
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AN INSPIRING TEACHER AND PROBLEM SOLVER, ALUMNUS MURRAY FISHER HAS A DREAM

BY CHUCK STANLEY

Northeastern alumnus Murray Fisher's designation in February as a recipient of one of the Chicago area's top honors for an educator — the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching — may allow him more time to pursue a dream.

The long-time ambition of Fisher, Class of '72, is to give deaf and hearing-impaired people new access to spoken presentations of every sort: from theater and movies to churches and schools.

Through their firm, Personal Captioning Systems, Inc., Fisher and his partner, Dr. Dan Deignan, are developing a system for transforming spoken words into written subtitles that can be transmitted to wireless portable display units.

"I've been working on the whole captioning project for about 15 years, but it's only within the last few years that the technology has been available to pull it off," Fisher said.

One caption display is a battery-powered palm-size unit. Another smaller unit clips to the side of a pair of eyeglasses. With the eyeglasses unit, the transmitted captions "float" about 18 inches in front of the wearer's line of sight no matter which way the wearer is looking.

"That technology is coming out of military research," explained Fisher. "It is the same kind of technology they use for the 'heads up' displays for jet fighter pilots. It lets them look straight forward while flying at hundreds of miles an hour and not have to glance down to look at their gauges - everything is in their line of sight."

Three palm-size units that went into service last December at the Victory Gardens Theater in Chicago have been well received.

"We are beginning to see people who are purchasing tickets there with the specific request that they want the portable caption display," said Fisher.

Fisher stated that the goal is to establish preference for "discreet" personal captioning devices rather than a separate screen display, subtitles within a rectangle in a film, or sign language translators.

"We are hoping to establish ourselves in the live theater venue and then after that we will move into the movie theaters — that's where the greatest impact will happen," he noted.

Fisher said new technology will have movies leaving the studios with multiple tracks of both audio and captioning in foreign languages.

"It means a film might be presented in English but a viewer will be able to watch it with Spanish subtitles while sitting next to someone who will be seeing it with Polish subtitles," Fisher explained.



The Northeastern Connection

Fisher had a long association with Northeastern before he first enrolled in 1968. Although he grew up within walking distance of Northeastern, it was more than proximity that led to his enrollment after high school.

"My mother earned her masters degree at Northeastern when it was still Chicago Teachers College, and my older sister was attending as an education major when I was finishing high school," Fisher said. "They were both pleased, so it just was kind of a natural thing that if I were going into education, I would go to Northeastern."

Among his college activities was playing saxophone in the band, where he met his wife Carol. Carol Fisher, Class of '72, is on the faculty at George Rogers Clark Elementary School in Chicago. In 1989, when she was teaching at Douglass Middle School in Chicago, she was selected as a Golden Apple Award recipient.

Fisher is modest about the matching honors he and his wife have earned. "Now we have a set of bookends," he joked. The Fishers make their home in Mount Prospect and have two daughters now attending college as education majors.

After earning his bachelors degree in elementary education and special education at Northeastern, Fisher earned a masters degree in vocation training at the University of Wisconsin at Stout to teach vocational training to special education students. He later earned a doctorate in education for special needs populations at Illinois State University.

Fisher has remained close to Northeastern. He spent a number of years as a member of Northeastern's adjunct faculty, where he taught a special education class. He still occasionally finds time to play in the alumni band and to get back to campus with his wife for different events.

He is mindful of the changes that have taken place at the university. "It's not the same place it used to be — it has grown, and in a good way," he noted. But what Fisher does find unchanged is the warm personal atmosphere on campus he remembers from

when he was a student. "Northeastern is not one of those big concrete impersonal campuses. It's just kind of a friendly, more hospitable place."

A Lifetime in Education

Fisher is now in his 26th year as an educator for the Chicago Public Schools. He is in his fifth year as a woodshop teacher at Southside Occupational Academy, where he trains disabled students. Virtually his entire career has been spent working with students. He was a principal for one year, but found it was not for him because, "It's just not as much fun as being with the kids."

It is Fisher's dedication and enthusiasm as an educator that earned him the Golden Apple award. He was cited as "an inspiring teacher, a problem solver who relishes opportunities to create novel solutions to the challenges faced by his students...all of whom are moderately to severely cognitively disabled and many of whom also have physical disabilities." He and nine other winners were honored at a black tie gala held in May at the Chicago Shakespeare Theater.

Beyond the prestige of being named a top educator, the award carries other benefits. Along with a \$2,500 cash award and an Apple computer, he is given a one-semester sabbatical leave for course work at Northwestern University. The Golden Apple Foundation pays for not only his course work, but for the substitute to fill his position while he is gone.

Although Fisher is considering a couple of different study possibilities, not surprisingly he says his likely direction will be to pursue developing word captioning equipment for classroom use.

"I believe we have many students who have identified and unidentified hearing problems, or they have unidentified auditory discrimination problems," Fisher said. "If we could bring them the text of what the teacher is saying it would greatly improve their comprehension of what is being presented and then their involvement in the class. It also would greatly increase their reading skills."



➤ Fisher says he stays with the project because the need is there and he believes discreet captioning is the way to fill it. He explained that "You're already looking at something like 22 to 24 million deaf and hard of hearing people in the United States who are not going to movies and not going to plays because they can't hear — so they can't know — what is going on. Also, as our population ages, we will have more and more people in society who are losing their hearing. I think all these people might appreciate having personal captioning available to them."

About the Golden Apple Award

The Golden Apple Foundation was created in 1985 to promote excellence in kindergarten through high school education. Each year ten of the finest full-time teachers at public or nonpublic schools in Cook, Lake and DuPage counties in the Chicago metropolitan area are identified and rewarded.

Last year, more than 1,200 educators were nominated for Golden Apples. A rigorous screening process narrowed the field to 30 finalists who each were reviewed by a selection committee team.

"It's like a whole-day evaluation," explained Fisher. "They observe you as you teach, they talk to colleagues, administrators, students and parents. They want to know your philosophy of education and what you do for your students, your school and your community."

The ten winners are selected out of those finalists.

Of the 138 winners since its inception, 16 Golden Apple Award recipients are NEIU alumni.

1986 - **Penny (Brehman) Lundquist** (B.A. '68 English)

1988 - **Teresa Wong** (M.A. '88 Math-Elementary School)

Manja Narret (B.A. '74 Secondary Education - History, M.A. '83 Reading)

1989 - **Carol A. Fisher** (B.A. '72 Secondary Education - Music)

Kenneth Klopak (B.A. '71 Secondary Education - Art, M.A.S. '89 Gifted Education)

1991 - **Brigid Gerace** (M.A.T. '70 Speech)

Elsa Gonzalez (B.A. '76 Bilingual-Bicultural Education)

1993 - **Jacquelyn Crook** (M.A. '78 Inner City Studies)

1994 - **Lillian Degand** (B.A. '85 Elementary Education-Teacher Education, Early Childhood Education)

Susan Kajiwara-Ansai (B.A. '80 Early Childhood Education, M.A. '84 Teaching Children with Learning Disabilities)

Jaqueline Lopushonsky (M.A.S. '92 Teaching Children with Learning Disabilities)

1997 - **Clare Billingham** (B.A. '71 Secondary Education-Spanish)

1999 - **Dorothy Franklin** (B.A. '90 Board of Governors, M.A. '99 Reading)

2000 - **Shari Frost, Ph.D.** (B.A. '73 French-Elementary Education, M.A. '90 Reading)

Richard Marecek (B.A. '67 History-Elementary Education)

2001 - **Murray K. Fisher, Ed.D.** (B.A. '72 Elementary Education-Physical Education)

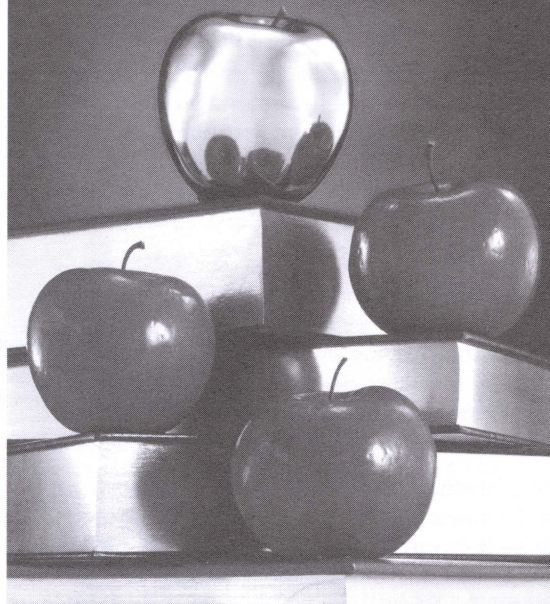


YOU CAN LOOK ON THE INTERNET FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT:

The Golden Apple Foundation:
<http://www.goldenapple.org/>

Personal Captioning Systems:
<http://www.personalcaptioning.com/>

The Victory Gardens Theater:
<http://www.victorygardens.org/>



NEIU RANKS AT TOP IN NATIONAL SURVEYS

U.S. News & World Report ranks NEIU as the most ethnically diverse university in the Midwest ("America's Best Colleges issue," August, 2000). The statistic was first included in the *U. S. News* rankings in 1997, and NEIU has been top-ranked since.

Northeastern Illinois University President Salme H. Steinberg noted, "There is a national consensus emerging on diversity that is positive and strong. As the publication *Work-America* recently noted, 'Diversity is just as much of an imperative in classrooms as it is in workplaces. Research shows that campuses that are more diverse tend to produce graduates with more problem-solving and communications skills.'

"Employers are looking for graduates who can work with people from different cultures, ethnicities and backgrounds. Students attending NEIU are at an advantage after graduation because they have already been an active part of a diverse community." President Steinberg explained that Northeastern is well-positioned to lead and is increasingly recognized in this endeavor.

A recent report by another publication highlights Northeastern Illinois University's performance in graduating minority students.

According to *Black Issues in Higher Education*, Northeastern graduates the largest number of Hispanic education majors in Illinois and ranks 16th in the nation. NEIU is the highest ranked Illinois university in the category and the only Illinois university in the top 20.

Black Issues also ranks NEIU 12th nationally for the number of Asian American students earning a masters degree in mathematics. NEIU is tied for 12th with a number of other schools including Harvard University, Rutgers University and the University of Texas. The

only Illinois university that ranked higher than NEIU was the University of Chicago.

NEIU has also been named one of *The Best 201 Colleges for the Real World* in 2000 by author Michael Viollt in his book by the same title.

According to the author, criteria for selecting colleges are changing. "While some of the past criteria are important today, they miss the critical issues like total college cost and career development opportunities."

In his book, colleges and universities offering baccalaureate degree programs in the U.S. were evaluated in five summary areas:

NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY IS AT THE HEAD OF THE CLASS, ACCORDING TO A NUMBER OF NATIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION SURVEYS.

1. Opportunity for general student body to get into and pay for college
2. The relative success of previous classes in graduating in a timely fashion
3. The commitment made by the institution to develop career opportunities
4. The overall college experience
5. Recent market response to the college or university

Other Illinois colleges included in the book are DePaul University, University of Illinois at Chicago and St. Xavier University.



President Steinberg Receives Outstanding Commitment to Professional Development Award

In recognition of her efforts to enhance professional development and career opportunities for multicultural professionals in higher education, NEIU President Salme H. Steinberg recently received the Outstanding Commitment to Professional Development Award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education's (CASE) Committee on Opportunity and Equality.

The award was developed by CASE to renew and reaffirm its commitment to nurture and maximize the talents of people of all ethnicities and to renew and reaffirm their educational obligation to promote diversity.

As president of NEIU since September 1995, Dr. Steinberg has shown great commitment to diversity. The national magazine *U.S. News and World Report* has named NEIU the "most diverse university in the Midwest" since 1997, when it first began ranking diversity in higher education.

Provost Named to National Advisory Committee

Dr. Estela López, NEIU Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, was named to the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) by former U.S. Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley.

"I am so very pleased that Dr. López has agreed to join the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity," commented Riley. "Her commitment to better education for all Americans will be of enormous benefit to the committee's work."

NACIQI advises the Secretary with regard to his responsibility for publishing the list

of state approved agencies and nationally recognized accrediting agencies. NACIQI also assesses the process of eligibility and certification of institutions of higher education and the provision of student financial aid.

Prior to coming to NEIU in 1997, Dr. López served as a senior associate at the American Association for Higher Education. She was a senior fellow at the American Council on Education, and vice president for academic affairs and planning at the Inter-American University of Puerto Rico.

Engaging Latino Communities for Education (ENLACE)

Northeastern Illinois University continues to work to improve access to higher education for Hispanic youth.

Aided by the Engaging Latino Communities for Education (ENLACE) planning grant, NEIU developed three neighborhood-based leadership teams representing schools serving Latino community organizations, businesses, parents, and students, and has conducted a comprehensive assessment of assets and barriers to the success of Latino students.

The ENLACE grant, awarded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, represents an endorsement of NEIU's long standing efforts in the Latino communities. It also further enhances the university's ability to serve the needs of the diverse Chicago community.

NEIU was the only institution in the Midwest to receive an ENLACE grant. According to the journal *Black Issues in Higher Education*, NEIU currently ranks 16th in the U.S. for the number of undergraduate education degrees conferred upon Hispanics.

Physics Instructor Presents Findings on New Cancer Treatment

Dr. Mahmoud Khalili (M.S. '91 Physics), instructor of physics, recently presented his findings on Photo Dynamic Therapy (PDT), a new type of cancer treatment that uses visible light to kill malignant cells, during a physics conference at the American Center for Physics in College Park, Maryland.

The new therapy, recently approved by

the FDA for skin cancer and limited lung cancer cases, has few side effects compared to the more traditional approaches, such as radiation and chemotherapy. Khalili started the research in 1992 as part of his Ph.D. research at the Illinois Institute of Technology. Now, the treatment is performed at Ravenswood Medical Center in Chicago where Khalili is an associate researcher.



Announcing NEIU's WorkForce Diversity Institute

NEIU's WorkForce Diversity Institute (WFDI) offers seminars and workshops that help integrate cultural, ethnic, gender and age diversity into an organization, large or small. The Institute constitutes a vital resource in our region, ready to assist organizations to answer important questions about managing change in increasingly diverse workplaces.

The WFDI works in collaboration with Dr. Samuel Betances, a leader in diversity training and NEIU Professor Emeritus, and his team of consultants, facilitators and trainers at Souder, Betances and Associates in Chicago.

The WorkForce Diversity Institute was established in October 2000. A grant to create the Institute was made possible by Senate Minority Leader Emil Jones and State Senator Ira Silverstein, working with NEIU President Salme H. Steinberg and Dean of Academic Development Murrell J. Duster.

Mathematics Professor Receives Prestigious Award

Mathematics Professor Dr. Joo O. Koo has been awarded the 2000 Thomas L. Saaty Prize for Applied Advances in the Mathematical and Management Sciences for his book, *Modern Mathematical, Management and Statistical Sciences, The Index to the 20th Century, Prologue to the 21st*.

The prize, established in 1981, has been awarded annually for contributions of exceptional merit appearing in the *American Journal of Mathematical and Management Sciences*. Koo received a monetary award and an engraved certificate to acknowledge his contributions to the field.

Students Donate Money for Indian Earthquake Relief

NEIU's Indian Student Association has donated \$10,000 to the Bochasanvasi Shree Akshar Purushottam Sanstha (BAPS) Earthquake Relief Fund.

The BAPS Earthquake Relief Fund has helped people in villages of Gujarat affected by the earthquake through emergency rehabilitation, rebuilding of houses, and public service for the economic and social well being of the victims. Signage will be posted in the village of Gujarat in recognition of NEIU's contribution.

American Council on Education (ACE)

President Salme H. Steinberg served as a presenter at the December meeting of the National Forum of the Advancement of Women Leaders. As an outcome of the meeting, she was invited to present at the June 2001 meeting. Dr. Steinberg was invited and has agreed to serve as mentor to two of the participants. She served as interviewer of the national finalists for the ACE Fellows Program in Washington, D.C. in January.

President Steinberg also serves as a member of the ACE Commission on International Education. This past March she participated in the strategic planning of international education at the Washington D.C. commission meeting.

Topics of priority at the meeting included:

- The results of two polls on attitudes towards international education that ACE helped to plan; one of the public and one of incoming students.
- Two new projects – the Ford Foundation funded study of international activities in U.S. higher education, and the Carnegie project on good practices that will also be developing measures of internationalization.
- Policy issues such as the need for developing quality controls in education, and the important issues raised in that field.

A representative from the U.S. Trade Office also attended the commission meeting to discuss the somewhat controversial proposals before the World Trade Organization to remove barriers to trade in higher education and training.

College of Business and Management Student Represents NEIU in Poland

Northeastern sophomore, business major and University honors student Lukasz Dobrzynski recently presented his paper "New NATO members - Opportunities and Challenges for Peace, Security, and Stability in Europe" at The Conference of Visegrad Youth in Warsaw - Cracow, Poland. The project is part of the University Honors Program.

Dobrzynski also gave a presentation about NEIU's International Studies Program and Exchange Program at the international conference to a group of representatives from Austria, the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia.

CLASS NOTES

1965

Stephen Tallackson (B.A. Gen.Ed.-El.Ed.) is academic advisor/instructor in the Purdue University Calumet History and Political Science Department in Hammond, IN.

1966

Sarah (nee Smith) Huddleson (B.A. Anthropology) is the senior catalog librarian at the Denver Public Library.

Frank Sesko (B.A. Speech-El.Ed.) is superintendent of schools at Watersmeet Township School District in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

1967

Joseph Dubec (B.A. Spanish-El. Ed.) is superintendent for Benjamin Elementary School, District 25 in Hinsdale.

1968

A. Michael Drachler, M.D. (B.A. Biology-El.Ed.) is listed in the January 2001 issue of *Chicago* magazine featuring "Chicago's Top Doctors." Dr. Drachler is chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Rush North Shore Medical Center in Skokie.

Penny (nee Brehman) Lundquist (B.A. English) is the director of the Golden Apple Academy, the heart of the Golden Apple Foundation and the organization that honors teachers for excellence. She was one of the first winners of the award in 1986.

1970

Bruce R. Brown, Ed.D. (B.A. Psychology-El.Ed., M.A.S.'76 Mental Handicaps, M.A.'85 Admin. and Supervision-

Gen. Admin.Cert.) was appointed assistant superintendent for School District #34 in Glenview.

1971

John O. Steele (M.A. Inner City Studies) is an associate judge for the Circuit Court of Cook County.

1972

Ronald Geisheimer (B.A. Sec. Ed.-Speech, M.A. '74 Speech) is the executive director of the Flickinger Center for Arts in Alamogordo, NM.

Robert Pfeiffer (B.A. Psychology) is chief executive officer of Alexian Brothers assisted living facilities which include Bonaventure House, Salus Place, The Harbor and the Center for Assisted Living.

1973

Janice Glass (M.A. Guid. and Counseling-Sec. School) has been a teacher at Piper Elementary School in Berwyn for over 30 years and recently received the PTA's Local Unit Educator of the Year Award.

Judith (nee St. Clair) Hull, Ph.D. (M.A. Inner City Studies) is senior editor at Urban Ministries, Inc. in Calumet City.

1974

Senator Miguel del Valle (B.A. Sec.Ed.-Spanish, M.A.'77 Guid. and Counseling-Vocational) received the Legislator of the Year Award from the Lester and Rosalie Anixter Center for supporting services for people with disabilities.

Christopher Dransoff (B.A. Sec.Ed.-Social Science, M.A. '78 Guid. and Counseling-

Sec. School) is principal of Lincoln Elementary School in Batavia.

Rev. Dr. Joseph E. Hill (M.A. Inner City Studies) is founder and senior minister of The Power Circle Congregation in Chicago.

Richard Lindberg (B.A. and M.A. '87 History) was inducted into Taft High School's Hall of Fame. He is a writer specializing in Chicago history, crime and sports.

Pamela (Liberman) Redfern (B.A. French, Linguistics) is a client support analyst at McDonald's Corporation in Oak Brook.

1976

Thomas A. Malouf (B.A. Sec.Ed. - Music) is director of music at St. Walter Parish in Wood Dale.

William McGlynn (B.A. English) is an associate judge for the Circuit Court of Cook County.

John F. Miller (B.A. B.O.G.) is regional director of Human Resources at Amtrak's Intercity Office in Chicago.

1977

Gema Dixon (B.A., M.A. '81 Political Science) passed the Illinois Bar Association examination in August, 2000.

Gerald Gems (B.A. Sec.Ed.-Phys.Ed.) published his third book, *Pride, Profit and Patriarchy*, a social history of football, in early 2000.

Nancy Katz (B.A. Sociology, Criminal Justice) is an associate judge for the Circuit Court of Cook County.

Michael Toney (M.A. Guid. and Counseling-Vocational) is associate vice president of enrollment at National-Louis University.

1978

Patrick Carton (B.A. Psychology) is an actor and director when he's not working at Anderson Brothers Moving and Storage in Chicago. He wrote and directed "The Baritones," a send-up of the hit HBO series, "The Sopranos," which was performed at the Royal George Theatre in Chicago.

James Hajduk (B.S. Earth Science, B.S.'85 Computer Science) is vice president, Unix Support Team of Enterprise Services, Worldwide Operations and Technology for Northern Trust Company in Chicago.

Daniel Ortego (B.A. El.Ed.-Phys.Ed.) is manager of business development for Advocate Healthcare.

1979

Rita Emmett (B.A. B.O.G.) is president of Emmett Enterprises, Inc. Rita is a professional speaker who presents keynotes and seminars across the country to major corporations. Her book, *The Procrastinator's Handbook: Mastering the Art of Doing It Now*, was published in 2000.

1980

Barry Birnbaum, Ed.D. (M.A. Learning Disabilities) is an assistant professor of Special Education at NEIU.

Dr. Wayne H. Fink (B.A. Psychology) is a psychologist at Stateville Lorrelhouse Center in Rochester, MN.

1981

Jerome V. Brown (B.A. Speech) is an operating dispatcher with Commonwealth Edison Company in Chicago.

Jack Fishman, J.D. (B.A. Bus. and Mgmt.) is assistant general counsel and claims manager for Beloit Corporation of Crystal Lake.

1982

Andrea Jones (B.A. Sociology) is an AmeriCorps volunteer at Neighborhood Housing Services and the Maple Ridge Apartments. She works as a substitute teacher and social worker in Chicago. Andrea has created essay contests for 4th through 8th graders to encourage children to appreciate the printed word.

Mary Ann Oberschmied (B.A. Anthropology) is a teacher of storybook dance and drama at Dorene's DanceXpress School of Dance, Inc. in Arlington Heights. As a dancer, she has performed in the U.S. and Europe.

Catherine Tondelli (B.A. Speech) joined Wimberly Allison Tong & Goo, an architectural planning and consulting firm, as director of business development. Based in London, Cathy has primary responsibility for managing WAT&G's growing European hospitality business. She has been a board member of the Network of Executive Women in Hospitality and is national co-chair of fundraising for Africare.

1983

Nell Musolf (B.A. Psychology) has written three romance novels recently published by Precious Gem. In addition, she has had several short stories published in *Woman's World* and *Woman's Day* magazines.

CLASS NOTES

1984

Ann Pardo (M.A. Guid. and Counseling) is the director of Behavioral Health at Canyon Ranch Health Resort in Tucson, AZ.

Trent Taylor (B.S. Computer Science) is corporate vice president and chief information officer at Walgreens in Deerfield.

1985

Denise Benesch (B.S. Accounting) is a partner at Friedman, Goldberg, Mintz & Kallergis, LLC, and a certified healthcare business consultant.

1987

Jeffrey Caudill (B.A. B.O.G.) is chief of police in Park Ridge.

Jane Hamilton Kenas (M.A. Music) is a staff accompanist at NEIU and plays for most vocal and instrumental recitals. She also works as the accompanist for the Park Ridge Chorale.

Gerald Sheehan (M.A. Political Science) is chief of police for the Village of Niles.

1989

Shashi Charles (B.S. Finance) is a projects analyst for PACTIV Corporation in Deerfield.

Mark Glochowsky, C.M.A. (B.S. Accounting, M.B.A. '96) is a senior accountant at Gerber Plumbing Fixtures Corp. in Chicago and recently became certified in management accounting.

Richard Senne (B.A. El.Ed.-Teacher Ed.) is coordinator of Media Services at NEIU.

1990

Robert Effner (B.A. B.O.G.) is District 2 Director for Agencies, Illinois Region, Country Companies Insurance Group. In 2000, he received the National Management and Career Development award for superior service to clients and for excellence in field management.

Steve Phillips (B.A. Social Science, Sec.Ed.Cert: Social Science) is a teacher at Dwight D. Eisenhower High School and was a 2001 Golden Apple Award finalist.

1991

Mary (nee Margo Declue) Nelson (B.A. U.W.W.) is a senior research analyst, County Department of Planning, Building and Zoning in Lake County. She recently ran for county clerk.

1992

Esme Codell (B.A. El.Ed.-Teacher Ed.) won a 2001 Informed Site Award from MyParentTime.com for her website, www.planetesme.com.

Willie Mae Hicks (B.A. U.W.W., M.A. '94 Inner City Studies) is vice president of human resources at Northern Trust Company of Chicago and an adjunct professor at Judson College in Elgin.

John Kola (B.S. Marketing) is president and general manager of The Chicago Chargers minor league football team and owner of Body Shots, a photography business.

Michael Krzak (B.A. Environ. Studies) is a personal injury attorney at Clifford Law Offices in Chicago. He was accepted as a member of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum and

named to the National Registry of Who's Who in 2001.

Virginia Quinonez (M.A. Guid. and Counseling-Vocational) is training coordinator in NEIU's Counseling Office.

1993

Anthony Anglada (B.A. Criminal Justice) is a special agent with the Drug Enforcement Administration of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Sabine Dietrich (M.A. Geog. and Environ. Studies) is a planner in the environment and land use section of the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.

Katherine Siewert McKnight (M.E.D. Teaching Lang. Arts) is an assistant professor of Teacher Education at NEIU, and a reading consultant at the Chicago Teachers' Center.

Paul Swiatly (B.A. Sec.Ed.-Phys. Ed.) is athletic director of Mather High School in Chicago.

Jo Marie Yonkus (M.A. Admin. and Supervision-Gen.Admin.Cert.) is principal of Resurrection High School in Chicago.

Lester Yesnick (B.A. Sec.Ed.-English Ed.) is an English teacher at Mojave High School in Las Vegas, NV. He also is a newspaper advisor, tennis coach and peer mediation advisor.

Joan Wester Anderson (B.A. B.O.G.) is the author of the only authorized biography of actress Loretta Young entitled, *Forever Young: The Life, Loves and Enduring Faith of a Hollywood Legend*.

1994

Sam Fazio (M.A. Gerontology) co-authored a book entitled, *Rethinking Alzheimer's Care*. He is the director of education and training for the Alzheimer's Association of Chicago.

Craig Kincaid (M.A. Behavior Disorders) is assistant principal at Carl Sandburg Junior High School in Rolling Meadows.

1996

Elizabeth Quaintance (M.A. Music) is a musician and music teacher, and owns a music studio. She is president of the Libertarians of DuPage County and ran for Illinois State Representative, 39th District as a Libertarian candidate.

1997

David Bickel (B.A. Economics) received the Illinois State Bar Association's Law Student Division Public Service Award representing The John Marshall Law School in recognition of his work in public service law.

Robert Bohanek (M.A. Admin. and Supervision-Gen.Admin.Cert.) is assistant principal at Holmes Junior High School in Elk Grove Village.

Roberto Carmona (M.A. Political Science) is a national monitor advocate for migrant and seasonal farm workers in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor.

Donald Rowley (B.A. History, Sec.Ed.Cert.-History) is varsity assistant and history teacher at Wheeling High School.

Christopher Wilkerson (B.A. B.O.G.) is director of business and industry services for Wright College in Chicago.

1998

Nathaniel Henry (B.A. Speech, Psychology) is a motivational speaker who has self-published his autobiography, *Never Anything Too Easy*. He recently spoke to NEIU freshman on the challenges of growing up on the streets of Chicago.

James Ruby (M.A. Counseling-Community) is coordinator of youth services at Oak Park Family Service and Mental Health Center.

1999

Anthony Carlsen (B.S. Computer Science) is Webmaster/Coordinator at NEIU, which includes the maintenance, design and development of NEIU's web site. Tony designed and built the NEIU Video Editing facility.

Robert Heer (B.A. B.O.G.) was named Officer of the Year by the Buffalo Grove Police Department, and is a village trustee.

Richard Herrejon (M.A. Admin. and Sup.-Gen. Adm.Cert.) is assistant principal at Gemini Junior High School in Des Plaines.

2000

Maureen Nugent (B.S. Management) is the business manager of the Plainfield Township Park District.

Rosa (nee Perez) Ridderbusch (B.A. Spanish) is an international language consultant and owns Access Business Translations in Lake Zurich.



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A New Look ...and New Reasons to Stay Connected

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- Discounts for selected fine arts performances
- 10% discount on merchandise from Beck's Bookstore (textbooks excluded)
- Access to the Academic Computing Labs and Music Resource Center

New Ways to Contact Us

Please stop by or call us with your updates, questions or concerns. Your new magazine will arrive quarterly to keep you abreast of University and alumni activities. We also welcome information for submission in this publication and look forward to highlighting your successes!

Address	Sachs Administration Building (C-Building) 5500 N. St. Louis, Chicago, IL 60625-4699
Office Phone	773-442-4205
Fax Number	773-442-4215
Alumni Events	773-442-4211
E-mail Address	alumni@neiu.edu

Upcoming Events

La Noche de la Familia

Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration
NEIU Alumni Hall, 6 p.m. - Midnight
Friday, September 28, 2001

El Centro 25th Anniversary Celebration

Guest speakers, poetry readings, student activities, and an evening banquet
October 15-17, 2001

The Lira Singers with pianist Pawel Chęcinski (A Jewel Box Series Concert)

Pre-concert alumni reception
honoring Polish Heritage Month
Friday, October 19, 2001, 6:00 p.m.

Presidential Lecture Series

All lectures free to alumni.
Call **773-442-INFO** for details.

Evanston Mayor Lorraine Morton

September 17, 2001
(10:00 a.m. in CLS 1002)

Andre Brink, South African Novelist

October 25, 2001
Master Class (1:40 p.m.)
Evening Lecture (7:30 p.m.)

Margaret Atwood, Award-winning Author and Poet

January 17, 2002

Chitra Divakaruni, Canadian Novelist, Poet and Critic

April 18, 2002

Neighborhood Networking

NEIU will be coming to a neighborhood near you! The Alumni Advisory Committee will be hosting networking activities throughout the Chicagoland area. If you would like to help organize a gathering near you, please contact the Alumni Office.