Doerr Center for Social Justice Celebrates 9th Anniversary

The Doerr Center for Social Justice is celebrating nine years of advancing social justice. As part of the School of Social Work’s 75th Celebration, the Doerr Center for Social Justice has been established in 1996 with the merging of the School of Social Work into the College of Public Service. The Doerr Center was established to provide access to needed information, services and resources, and meaningful relationships, structures and resources for the equality of opportunity, development education, and individual and/or family counseling.

The International Adoption Clinic (IAC) officially opened in September. The clinic was created as a result of the growing number of adopted children from foreign countries and is a collaboration among Drs. Deborah Hwa-Froelich, department of communication sciences and disorders; Hisako Matsuo, department of research methodology; and Doug Pettinelli, department of counseling and family therapy. The purpose of the IAC is to provide resources and services to internationally adopted children and their families, as well as to gain knowledge of international adoption processes to share with the larger community.

Services are provided through the Paul C. Reinert, S.J., Clinics for Family and Child Development, in particular the Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic and the Center for Counseling and Family Therapy. The IAC provides a developmental assessment of speech and language, and hearing competency, and social-emotional development. The assessment will be used to provide families with specific feedback on both strength and growth areas. This feedback may contain recommendations for follow-up services, which may be provided through the clinics. These services include communication treatment, hearing services, support groups, social emotional development education, and individual and/or family counseling.

For more information about IAC services or to schedule an appointment, please call 314.973.3365.

Ashley Crane, M.A., M.S.W., is the director of the center. For more information, contact her at: cruceap@slu.edu or visit http://socialjustice.slu.edu.
**Donors’ Creative Gifts**

Great progress has been made in the “Campus areas of Saint Louis University: Where Knowledge Touches Lives.” Because of alumni support, the Paul C. Reiner, S.J., Clinics for Family and Child Development have been able to upgrade both their computer capabilities and their client environments. They are now both high tech and high touch.

In this issue, we continue highlighting some of the creative ways donors have contributed to the College of Public Service. Both of these donors either previously or currently sit on advisory boards for centers or programs in the college and see the importance of our teaching, research, and service, as well as the potential for us to do more.

Ira DeWitt, Ph.D. (Educational Studies ‘94) has hired a faculty member to the department of educational studies at SLU. As a student in the college, she learned first-hand of the value of the Center for Counseling Therapy (CCFT), one of the Paul C. Reiner, S.J., Clinics for Family and Child Development. The center serves the St. Louis community by providing affordable counseling and outreach services, empowering people to face life’s challenges with confidence. Additionally, the center serves as a practicum site for advanced graduate students in the department of counseling and family therapy, providing valuable experience that is required in earning their degree.

The CCFT offers a warm and inviting environment for clients and families in need of services. Teams of counselors and therapists collaborate in working with clients. These practitioners employ the latest techniques in the field while utilizing cutting-edge audio-visual equipment to enhance learning experiences for clients.

As a board member of the center, DeWitt was involved in raising funds to support and increase its capacity. She and her husband, Bill DeWitt III, hosted annual fund raising events at St. Louis’ Busch Stadium, using one of the St. Louis Cardinals owners’ boxes as a venue. These fund-raising events have been highly successful and added to capacity. “My education at SLU is invaluable,” DeWitt said. “And this fund raider allowed me to give back to the counseling and family therapy program and its center, which is a vital education tool as well as a wonderful resource to the St. Louis community.”

Dean Mueller, executive vice president of Colleges Turley Martin Tucker, an international commercial real estate firm, has offered to principals and teachers in St. Louis, sits on the advisory board of the urban planning and real estate development (UPRED) program, a master’s degree program in the college of Public Service. The program emphasizes developing professional competencies in planning and real estate development, problem framing and analysis, and communicating with a diverse set of interests. The program offers students the opportunity for exposure to a wide set of planning and real estate professionals working in the public, private, and non-profit sectors. Students’ experiences in the classroom, workshops/studios, internship and conference series link them to real projects.

Members of the UPRED board represent all facets of the planning and real estate development arenas. They advise the dean of the college and faculty members who teach in the program about ways to strengthen it, easing the task of merging theory with real world scenarios. Mueller and his company have been active by not only making annual contributions to the program, but by providing experts from the company who will guest lecture in a course offered through the School for Professional Studies as part of a new Certificate in Real Estate Development. This will provide students with an excellent opportunity to learn invaluable skills from individuals who have many years of experience working in the commercial real estate field.

To make a gift to the College of Public Service, please use the enclosed envelope. For additional information, contact Ronnie Schaefer, director of development, at 314.977.2218 or visit www.slu.edu/colleges/cops/giving.html.

**Help Reduce Teacher Shortage**

In many areas of Missouri, the demand for teachers exceeds the supply. A new program in the College of Public Service will help ease the shortage. The newly approved Renaissance Program is a four-year, undergraduate education program leading to teacher certification in elementary education, middle school education or special education. The program is unique in that it is being offered to working adult, non-traditional students through the college’s School for Professional Studies, which serves working adults in the St. Louis metropolitan area. It is an accelerated program, with classes offered in the evenings, on Saturdays and online. The program was born out of interest by prospective and current students. It is being offered in addition to the college’s department of educational studies program, which has and will continue to offer a teacher education program to traditional students who attend classes during the week.

The Renaissance Program is designed based upon models of effective adult instruction. As with other programs taught through the School for Professional Studies, the program will build upon the experience base the adult learner brings to the program. Courses are designed to provide the adult, including the working adult, with the opportunity to enter the teaching profession as a new or second career. A variety of practicum options will be available. Instructor Susan Arts, along with Dws. Mary Dasovich and Mary Rose Grant, was instrumental in drafting and obtaining approval for the program.

“The Renaissance Program will help many working adults achieve a goal of becoming certified teachers,” Arts said. “Often the stumbling block is the problem of how to fit practicum classroom experience into their busy schedules. This program addresses the difficulty by integrating the practicum with a for-credit classroom experience. We anticipate many of our students will be individuals from various walks of life who have worked in previous careers and have retired early or simply wish to begin a second career. They will bring valuable experience to SLU’s classroom as students as well as to the classrooms where they will eventually teach.

Plans are forming to begin enrolling students in January 2006, with classes beginning in March, which is term four in the School for Professional Studies. For more information about the program, please contact Susan Arts at artsic@slu.edu.

**Newly Designed Newsletter Coming Spring 2006**

Beginning in Spring 2006, the alumni newsletter will have a new design. Features will include information and stories about the College of Public Service, School for Professional Studies and the School of Social Work. Look for a newly designed newsletter in your mailbox this spring.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Nov. 19**
Fourth annual Father Jim Cormack Scholarship 5K and one-Mile Walk. Proceeds provide scholarship and/or research grants for the study of systemic causes and solutions of poverty. For more information and a printable entry form, go to: [www.cdcslu.edu/camps/Cormack_Res_Flyer.pdf](http://www.cdcslu.edu/camps/Cormack_Res_Flyer.pdf)

**Dec. 4**
Breakfast with Santa. For more details, visit www.slu.edu/alumni.

**Spring ‘06**
An event will be held in February or March for alumni of the College of Public Service, School for Professional Studies and School of Social Work. Look for invitations in the mail.