

# The Second Edition

MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

## Prestigious Award for Community Engagement

*Marquette's College of Professional Studies' Center for Dispute Resolution Education* was selected to contract with the Milwaukee Fire Department and the Milwaukee Professional Firefighters Association Local 215 to develop a curriculum for the training of 20

facilitators and 950 Milwaukee fire-fighters on the topics of cultural competency, dispute resolution, and peer mediation. This is the first training program of its kind in the nation.

Fire stations are unique working environments because firefighters not only work together, but they also must share living quarters. Consequently, there may be a greater incidence of conflict developing over race, ethnicity, and sexual orientation, as well as religious beliefs and practices, political views, cultural norms, education, etc. To

address these potential areas of conflict, the Milwaukee Fire Department and Milwaukee Professional Firefighters Association Local 215 received a \$125,000 grant from the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Services to develop and offer cultural competency and conflict training for Milwaukee firefighters.

This unique dispute resolution program was

recognized for outstanding innovation and service in labor-management relations with the Melvin Lurie Labor-Management Cooperation Prize, which was presented during the Lurie Awards ceremony on September 24, 2007.



*Back row from left to right: Juliet Battle, Battalion Chief Julio Rivera, Battalion Chief Mark Sain, Deputy Chief Jerry Dillard, Deputy Chief Larry Jenkins, Assistant Chief Brian Grassel*

*Front row from left to right: Center for Dispute Resolution Education Director Eva Soeka, President of Local 215 Bobbi Weber, Chief Doug Holton, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Law, Moira Kelley*

*“This has been a challenging, thought-provoking, but effective training. It has been a great opportunity for the Center to partner with the Fire Department to better serve the Milwaukee community.”*

**Eva Soeka**, Director of the Center for Dispute Resolution Education

The prestigious Lurie Awards are made possible by the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) Foundation, the Lurie family, and the UWM Masters in Human Resources and Labor Relations (MHRLR). It commemorates the efforts of Professor Lurie's efforts to foster cooperative relations in Wisconsin.

### *The College of Professional Studies' Graduate Program in Dispute Resolution*

The Center for Dispute Resolution Education Program seeks to train professionals, primarily those in the fields of law,

health care, education, and business to practice as third party neutrals in the field of dispute resolution, or to be knowledgeable participants in the dispute resolution process. The program offers a 15-credit graduate certificate in dispute resolution and a 33-credit masters degree in dispute resolution. For more information, visit our Web site at <http://www.marquette.edu/disputeres> or call (414) 288-5535.