

# Alum Leading the Way for Kids



Over a decade ago Ronn Johnson left Marquette University to begin teaching in his own classroom. Little did he know that he would one day be opening his own school with the help of the YMCA...

This fall, a new charter school — The Young Leaders Academy — opened in its full splendor. According to Johnson, “The building is first-class.” Spanning 110,000 square feet, the \$14 million complex on North and Teutonia is the largest capital project the Milwaukee YMCA has ever undertaken. Facilities, which serve 450 students in grades K-8 as well as 100 children in its childcare wing, include an adventure pool, fitness center, family prime-time center and gymnasium. There is also a state-of-the-art science laboratory which includes a built-in aquarium and terrarium. This facility will be a “total care” center — addressing the academic, social and physical needs of all of its children.

Johnson’s excitement stems from the philosophy of the Youth Leadership Academy, a part-time leadership development program that was once housed at Marquette. Having been involved with the Academy since its inception fifteen years ago, Johnson has since expanded the “boys only” curriculum to address the social skills and leadership development needs of girls as well. Dr. Howard Fuller and Dr. Robert Pavlik from

Marquette’s Institute for the Transformation of Learning, were among the first at the table to launch the Academy’s school.

As the principal, Johnson claims his greatest challenge was in hiring the very special group of teachers (dubbed the “Fabulous 15”) who embody the philosophy of the Academy and make the magic of the school come alive.

When asked why he left public education, he said that he experienced “too much political red tape... too much political will... it was just not child-focused enough.” He needed to be in an environment that was child-centered — to be able to do what is best for kids. As he states: “I know what it takes to obtain high levels of achievement among kids. I’ve done it!”

Having moved out of the mainstream, Johnson’s convictions regarding teacher certification also reflect his student-centered philosophy. He believes that certification programs need to be revamped. “Curriculum content and philosophy can no longer dominate the courses that University students complete. Teacher candidates — especially urban teachers — must learn about the culture of the communities from which the children are coming.”

Johnson contends that educators must expect the best and be prepared for the worst. “When we see ourselves as problem-solvers, then we will have much more success working with kids. There is a very authoritarian disposition that teachers MUST have, especially in urban school settings.” Johnson emphasizes that teachers need to package themselves more mindfully as they prepare to meet today’s kids in the classroom.

Fully equipped, teachers can then get to the business of sifting through baggage, nurturing students, and empowering them to recognize that they really can be anything that they desire. Now THAT is education!

—Maureen Polczynski

## Alumni News

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION



MARQUETTE  
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**Photography:** Nelis Hooyer, Technical Coordinator, and Nereus Dooley, Learning Technology Consultant

**Layout, Design and Editing:** Lori Fredrich, Administrative Secretary - EDPL

If you have ideas or information for upcoming newsletters, please send your information to Dr. John Augenstein at [john.augenstein@marquette.edu](mailto:john.augenstein@marquette.edu) or call (414) 288-7376. We would love to hear from you!

## EMERITUS PROFILE: Dr. John Ivanoff



**D**r. Ivanoff, a native of Washington state, taught at Marquette University from 1960 to 1996. He received his B.A. in Mathematics and M.A. in Education from Gonzaga University. In 1959, he received his Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska. His career also included military service in the Naval Reserve and the Naval Air Corps (1944-46).

He received a Fulbright scholarship to the University of Glasgow for the study of Scottish philosophy. Although this was not his favorite area of study, he remembers fondly the time he spent in Glasgow with his wife during the early years of their marriage. During the 1950's, Ivanoff's work focused mainly on psychological evaluation, psychometrics and therapy.

Dr. Ivanoff also worked as a high school mathematics teacher in Washington and as an Assistant Professor at the University

of Nebraska. He began teaching at Marquette University in 1960. His favorite courses included psychometrics, evaluation and statistics. He also provided consulting for the County Veteran's Administration and the Jewish Vocational Center. He remembers his days at Marquette with fondness, and states that he had a "helluva good time working there."

Dr. Ivanoff believes that students planning to pursue post-Doctorate programs might consider going on to medical college for a concentration in neurology. Attendance at a medical college would help to remove the label of "pop psychology" from the profession and provide credibility as a legitimate science.

In addition to his long career in education, Dr. Ivanoff also worked alongside his wife (also Dr. Ivanoff) in a mental health clinic in downtown Milwaukee. His wife passed away in 1996, but even today, Dr. Ivanoff continues to work at the clinic. He has a son who resides in Dallas, Texas and a daughter who lives in Milwaukee.

## COUNSELING and EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY WINS AWARD

**T**his past August, the Department of Counseling and Educational Psychology received the 2002 Department of the Year Award from the American Psychological Association of Graduate Students (APAGS) at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association.

APAGS has approximately 60,000 graduate student members, and selects one department from across the country that has demonstrated a strong commitment to graduate students and their education. The award letter reads: "This APAGS honor is given annually to a graduate psychology department that has exemplified outstanding commitment towards graduate students and graduate student life, recognizing superior assistance and attention to students' needs, as well as excellent faculty student relations." Hundreds of psychology departments in counseling, clinical, experimental, industrial/organizational, educational, and school psychology from across the country are eligible for the award.

The Department of Counseling and Educational Psychology at Marquette recently has been gaining important recognition for its programs. Earlier this year the Department's Ph.D. Program in Counseling Psychology became accredited by the American Psychological Association. Three years ago the Department's Master's in Community Counseling became the first graduate program in the State of Wisconsin, and perhaps the entire nation, to be approved as an accredited program for Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor (CADC-II/III) training.



An ecstatic Dr. Timothy Melchert with student, Mike Madson

But the APAGS Department of the Year Award is the most important achievement that the Department has obtained. Dr. Tim Melchert, Chair of the Department, noted that "I was honored that the President of our Graduate Student Organization thought that we might be deserving and should be nominated for this award. This is truly an honor, especially because the award came from students. It's nice when your colleagues in the profession recognize your efforts, but we work to serve students, so we are especially pleased that it was the students who recognized our efforts."

In addition to a plaque of recognition, the department received a \$1000 award that will be used in the form of scholarships to enhance the professional development of students.

—Mike Madson, Third Year Ph.D.

## FOCUSING ON THE DEAN

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Dear Friends:

Over the past summer I met with Dr. Thomas Buck, Chair of the School's Alumni Committee, regarding a project/goal that I would like to achieve this year. I have asked the Committee to assist me in establishing an endowed School of Education Alumni Scholarship. To achieve this we need to generate a minimum of \$25,000.

The SOE Alumni Committee established a development subcommittee that is already working with us to achieve the goal and I am grateful to them for taking time to do this.

Marquette has a number of scholarship opportunities for its students but there is an increasing need for scholarship monies for education students especially as we try to recruit from urban areas.

Our redesigned teacher preparation program with its urban focus was initiated this fall semester. Its graduates will meet the ten new state standards that become effective in 2004 plus the two additional standards set by the School, namely, technology and social justice. We want our graduates to be not only quality teachers but also advocates for their students, parents, and communities.

Because of the importance of this project/goal for current and future education students, my wife, Barb, and I joined Tom and Jane Buck in providing the initial monies for the SOE Alumni Scholarship Fund. May I



ask you to join us in not only meeting but also exceeding the goal of \$25,000? An envelope is enclosed with this newsletter for your convenience.

Thanks for your continued support and assistance in this project/goal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John J. Augenstein".

John J. Augenstein, Ph.D.  
Dean

## SCHOOL OF EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

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When Dr. John Augenstein first announced his vision for a School of Education Alumni Scholarship Endowment it struck me as a marvelous idea. The response of the leadership group has been the same. My wife and I immediately decided to make a gift to support Dean Augenstein's vision.

With the formal announcement to all SOE alumni/ae that appears in this issue of our newsletter, I would like to extend my invitation to each of you to catch the vision of this endowment and to consider your own generous gift.

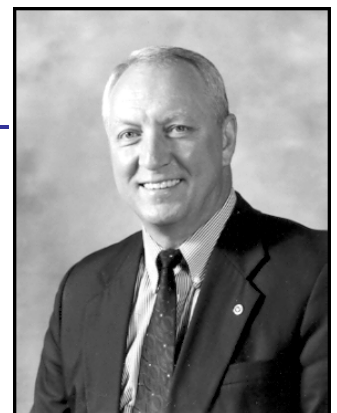
Our reasons for making a gift included such things as appreciation for Marquette, gratitude to all the professors with whom I studied, and respect for Jack Augenstein in particular. It made us feel good to be able to give something back to this great university while helping to

make sure that tuition assistance will be available to worthy students for generations to come.

Please give serious consideration to this great opportunity to help endow the SOE Alumni scholarship program. I know you will experience joy in making your gift. Thank you in advance for your support.

—Tom Buck, 1999 graduate

Superintendent of the Lutheran  
High School Association



# WORKING FOR CHANGE: TEACHERS FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

*Teachers for Social Justice (TSJ)* is a new student group at Marquette University for those interested in racial and social justice within urban education. Associated with the School of Education, TSJ grew out of conversation with students in Dr. Terry Burant's 2001 Introduction to Schooling course as well as through dialog with other faculty about the new teacher education program. Many agreed that the program needed a place for students to extend their learning outside of classes.

According to Dr. Burant, now-Faculty Advisor to the group, "TSJ really got off the ground and running toward the end of the spring semester of 2002, thanks to the efforts of a group of dedicated and persistent students — mostly freshman — who would not let the idea die!" Since then, members have been actively organizing themselves and building bridges to other groups on the MU campus to explore opportunities for joint programming.

Six undergraduate student members recently attended the National Association of Multicultural Education (NAME) conference in Washington D.C. Adam Hengel presented a session called *Racial, Sexual and Class Slurs: A Discussion on How to Eliminate Them from Our Classrooms*.



(from left to right) Dr. Sharon Chubuck, Adam Hengel, Cassidy McGowan, Beth Gilbeault, Steve Kitowski

Hengel, Beth Guilbeault and Steve Kitowski presented a session called *Teacher Education Students Who Care About Social Justice: Voices at the Start of the Journey*. The MU delegation also enjoyed navigating the Metro train system, sampling Ethiopian food and meeting people from all of the country who are interested in multicultural education.

The group's president Adam Hengel (a senior from Waukesha, WI) explained, "It is critical for preservice teachers to become involved in groups that build community in the School of Education itself as well as engaging future teachers in larger arenas of discussion and action."

Other students in leadership positions include: Vice President Sara Schaeufele (a sophomore from Des Plaines, IL); Treasurer Wendy Wimer (a sophomore from Albuquerque, NM); and Secretary

Clare Costigan (from Fairport, NY). The group is assisted by Charles Gray, a Milwaukee Public Schools teacher and former SOE graduate student. Currently, the group meets for business in the Educational Resource Center (ERC) on most Wednesday evenings. All are welcome to attend! For more information, email Adam Hengel at [adam.hengel@marquette.edu](mailto:adam.hengel@marquette.edu).

## EDUCATION STUDENTS HONORED

In 1991 then-Milwaukee Archbishop Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B., initiated the "Archbishop's Vatican II Awards for Distinguished Service." His purpose in giving these awards was to single out people who represent the work of so many who contribute to the vitality and spiritual life of the Church in ten different categories of service. Vatican Council II speaks of the Church as engaged with the world, witnessing through word and action the justice and love of Jesus Christ. It is a Church wherein laity, priests and religious together make unique and integrated contributions to the mission of Christ.

Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan has continued the tradition in 2002 with the assistance of Auxiliary Bishop Richard J. Sklba. Fourteen individuals received the 2002 Vatican II Awards for Distinguished Service at a September 26 prayer service. Two recipients of the Young Adult Service Awards were Marquette University School of Education students:

**Young Adult Service to the Church** – At age 18, **Erin Lechner** has served her Church in almost every way possible. She serves as a lector and altar server and she assists in the teaching of catechism to children at St. Joseph Parish, Waupun. She is involved in the choir and was director of the Christmas youth orchestra. She helps at the parish festival each summer, volunteers with Habitat for Humanity

and nursing home projects, and attended the National Catholic Youth Conference. In 2001 Erin was the only person from the Waupun area to attend the Archdiocesan Global Youth Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic. Erin also traveled about 35 miles each day to attend the nearest Catholic high school. Erin is a freshman at Marquette University, where she is pursuing a degree in secondary education and Spanish.

**Young Adult Service in Education** – **Erica Kowalski**, who recently began her sophomore year at Marquette University, is dedicated to helping those less fortunate than her. When the Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Council entered into a relationship with Norwich Mission House in Port Au Prince, Haiti, Erica joined the adults on the mission trip. She also took it upon her herself to learn about Haiti and create awareness among the parishioners and her classmates at Pius XI High School. Actively involved in student ministry both in high school and college, Erica also participates in her parish youth council, youth choir and liturgical ministries. She has helped at the Christian Leadership Institute and taught Association for Religious Instruction, Special Education to those with special needs at St. Gregory Church.

Information about the Vatican II Awards and recipients taken from the Milwaukee Archdiocesan website: <http://www.archmil.org>

# FACULTY PROFILES

## Dr. Todd Campbell and Dr. Terry Burant



**T**odd C. Campbell is Assistant Professor and Co-Director of Training in the Department of Counseling and Educational Psychology. Todd joined the faculty in 1997 after completing his Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology at Texas A&M University. He has a masters degree in Counseling from UW-Whitewater and a Bachelors degree in Sociology from UW-Madison.

Todd is a licensed psychologist, a Certified Alcohol and Drug counselor (CADCI), and a Certified Clinical Supervisor (CCSII). Todd is affiliated with the Center for Addiction and Behavioral Health Research as an Executive Committee Member, Center Scientist, and Co-Director of the Division for Community Studies. Todd also maintains a small private practice with ICF Consultants and is a Disaster Mental Health Volunteer with the American Red Cross.

Todd has taught many counseling courses within the department over the last few years, but of late has been concentrating on the practicum and internship. His research interests include addiction treatment processes, outcomes and assessments, evidence-based practice in health psychology, and counselor training and supervision. He is particularly proud that he has been involved with the APA accreditation of the Counseling Psychology Program, the Wisconsin Certification Board Accreditation of the Community Counseling Substance Abuse Track, and that the COEP Department was awarded the "Department of the Year" by the American Psychological Association of Graduate Students.



**T**erry Burant joined the faculty of the Department of Educational Policy and Leadership in the fall of 2001. Prior to her arrival, she was a member of the faculty for three years at the University of Wyoming.

Terry spent most of her professional life teaching high school in southern California and the desert Southwest. But, as a Milwaukee native and a lover of the Great Lakes, she is thrilled to be home at Marquette.

Dr. Burant earned her Ph.D. in Teaching and Teacher Education from the University of Arizona-Tucson. Her research interests include studying the experiences of preservice teachers in early field experiences in urban schools and practitioner research with urban teachers. In addition, she studies the role and use of reading and writing in "underground" communities, specifically the note-writing and passing practices of young women in high schools.

At Marquette, she teaches the early courses in the new undergraduate program and graduate courses in teacher research and foundations of curriculum. She also serves as the faculty advisor for the student group, *Teachers for Social Justice*.

In her spare time, Terry enjoys swimming, running and scouring antique stores for unique wine glasses. She also loves cooking with fresh vegetables and seeing Lake Michigan on her walk to school each day. Someday (post tenure!) Terry hopes to write a novel and paddle the perimeter of Lake Superior!

## Mark Your Calendars!

### 2002 School of Education Distinguished Alumnus/Young Alumnus Reception

April 25, 2002 4:00-6:00pm  
Alumni Memorial Union, Henke Lounge

## SCHOOL OF EDUCATION



Marquette University

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*Educating in the spirit  
Of Cura Personalis*

## Where are they now . . . ?

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**Johnell Sharp** (Principal Certification, 1991) is in his thirteenth year as principal of Lee Elementary School. Johnell is appreciative of the innovative leadership style that he developed under the guidance and modeling of his Marquette School of Education professors. This style has allowed him to empower his staff to become independent thinkers and work within the system so they are in charge of their own destiny. Johnell is especially appreciative of Dr. Augenstein's input during his first year as principal of Lee. Together they set goals that served as the foundation of Johnell's innovative and effective leadership style. Because of his success as a principal, Johnell is one of seven MPS principals invited to take part in the ongoing decision-making process with Superintendent William G. Andrekopoulos and members of the Senior Management Team.

**Jude Westergard** (M.Ed. in Administration and Supervision, 1992) is in her third year as an assistant principal at Sholes Middle School, and her twenty-third year in Milwaukee Public Schools. Jude cites the professionalism, leadership and modeling of the Marquette School of Education staff as the essence of her role as a leader. All professors maintained high standards, facilitated classroom environments where questions were welcomed and answered effectively, and always took the extra time to coach students through problems when necessary. An important aspect of her daily work is making sure *Cura Personalis* is integrated in all interactions with students, parents and colleagues. Over the years, Jude has been actively involved in many professional organizations, including two terms on the National Board of Directors and serving as President of the Marquette University School of Education Alumni Association.

### WE ARE ACTIVELY SEEKING TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH OUR ALUMNI

Alumni/ae from the School of Education are encouraged to submit news items and/or updates (e.g. promotions, marriages, job changes, awards/honors) to be published in the **ALUMNI NEWS**. To submit an update or article, please contact Dr. John Augenstein, Dean of the School of Education:

[john.augenstein@marquette.edu](mailto:john.augenstein@marquette.edu)

(414) 288-7376

**Don't be shy! We'd love to hear from YOU!**