Counselor Education meets increasing societal needs; 50 years strong

Gonzaga celebrates 50 years of counselor education this year, but faculty and students alike can thank the Russians for being the catalyst behind the program’s development.

“In the 1950s when the Russians launched Sputnik, the United States was desperately behind in the space race,” said Associate Professor Paul Hastings, who has taught in the program for 35 of its 50 years. “So our country pumped millions of dollars into advanced degree programs in counselor ed as a means in helping school counselors recognize the value of the sciences and to identify young scientists who could help us catch up with the Russians.”

That effort made a huge impact on counselor education training, and helped Gonzaga initiate its program through the School of Education in 1963.

Today, the counselor education program manages 120 graduate students – 80 on campus and another 40 through programs in Canada (see related story on Distance education, page 4). The program has maintained national accreditation for all three of its graduate programs on campus: School Counseling, Clinical Mental Health Counseling, and Marriage and Family Counseling.

“At no time in my 35 years here have I seen a greater need for development of school counselors, community mental health counselors and marriage and family counselors,” Hastings said. “School shootings and bullying, increased drop-out rates, high divorce rates, suicide and drug issues all require a trained workforce to help society deal with these issues.”

Hastings credits former Dean Jeanne Wardian with understanding the importance of this endeavor to the Jesuit mission of the University, reaching out to help those most in need. Hastings praised President Thayne McCulloh, new Education Dean Vincent Alfonso, former program chair Lisa Bennett and current chair Mark Young for their support of, and vision for this program.

Facility commitment, willingness to travel builds bridge to long-distance education

By planes, trains and automobiles Gonzaga’s education faculty make grueling trips to various points in Western Canada to bring graduate education courses to small villages and major cities where adult education for daytime workers is not always available.

“There is a lot of wear and tear on the faculty in two regards,” said Albert Fein, chair of Educational Leadership and Administration. “One of them is the physical toll that it takes getting up early in the morning and catching a flight. The second difficulty is the logistical challenge of teaching on the road; it’s much different than walking across the hall to teach class.”

This year faculty are teaching in Fort St. John (944 miles from Spokane) and Prince George (636 miles) in Fein’s leadership program. In counselor education, programs run in Calgary (434 miles) and Kelowna (180 miles). Faculty typically travel on Friday, teach all day Saturday and return home Saturday night or Sunday. That’s a lot of flying and/or driving, about 120,000 miles a year.

But well worth the effort, Fein and counselor education Associate Professor Paul Hastings agreed.

Education dean honored

Education Dean Vincent Alfonso will receive the “Outstanding Contributions to Training” award at the national Trainers of School Psychologists annual meeting this month. Alfonso joined Gonzaga last summer after teaching and serving administrative roles over 19 years in the psychology program at Fordham University.

NGD goes global

National Gonzaga Day Jan. 25 celebrated “Global Education, Global Celebration,” with a halftime performance that included dances by GU’s international students and a shout out from Gonzaga’s Florence students. GU held NGD events in 34 locations around the globe as alumni and friends of Gonzaga came together to enjoy the game, learn about global education and rally around scholarships, internships and service. Social media blew up, too. The #GonzagaDay hashtag was flooded with well wishes and memories. Basketball center Sam Dower Jr., tweeted that the Kennel was the craziest he’d seen it in a long time. See photos from events around the world, the live halftime show, read how others celebrated and learn more about global Gonzaga at NationalGonzagaDay.org.
Ong conference
Feb. 7-8
Gonzaga will hold an interdisciplinary conference on the thought of Walter Ong, S.J., on Feb. 7-8, “Technology, Rhetoric and Cultural Change: Walter J. Ong, S. J., in the Age of Google, Facebook, and Twitter.”

The conference will celebrate Ong’s legacy and the tradition of Jesuit scholarship. Gonzaga scholar Sara van den Berg, S.T. Louis University, will give the keynote address at 6 p.m., Friday in Jepson 120. Interdisciplinary breakout sessions on Saturday will include the work of Gonzaga students and faculty, as well as faculty from other Jesuit universities.

Gonzaga was a pre-eminent scholar of language and its evolution. His work focused on the shift from oral cultures to literate cultures – and the effects of that shift.

Conference organizers are themselves an interdisciplinary group, including Kirk Besmer and Fr. Tim Clancy, S.J., both of the philosophy department; Paul DePalma, computer engineering; and Heather Crandall and John Caputo, communication and leadership studies.

‘Cinderella’ heads to Ethics Bowl nationals

There’s no fast talking, no canned speeches. Ethics Bowl competition is a little different than debate. There’s lots of conversation. Neither side is trying to defeat the other team, but rather undertake a clear, thoughtful and illuminating conversation to engage the public on an important issue, said Coach Erik Schmidt.

“The Independent Colleges of Washington contacted Gonzaga to put together an Ethics Bowl team for an ICW Ethics Bowl April 4 at Seattle U,” said Schmidt. Gonzaga associate professor of philosophy, “They just wanted to showcase their 10 schools. They gave us $2,500 to cover start-up costs, and suggested we may want to go to a regional tournament to watch the competition, and how it unfolds. I thought, ‘Why not participate,’” Schmidt said.

“So we used the money to travel to Seattle for a regional meet, and lo and behold, we won the competition.” Now the team is headed to the national championship Feb. 27 in Jacksonville, Fla.

“We’re like the basketball team of the ‘90s,” Schmidt said. “We weren’t expecting to go this far, and there’s no pressure on us.”

In Ethics Bowl competition, five representatives from each school sit around a U-shaped table, team A on one side, team B on the other, with three judges and a moderator separating the teams on the bottom of the U. A coin flip determines who goes first. Teams go to nationals for prepare for 15 cases. What questions might be asked? “If the case is patent law, for example, we might ask a professor in patent law to tell us about ethical issues in his or her field,” Schmidt said.

The moderator asks a question of the team that wins the coin flip; they have one minute to confer and 10 minutes to answer.

New meeting, event scheduling website makes reservations easier, enhances University calendar

Scheduling at Gonzaga just got easier. The newly implemented Meeting and Event Scheduling system brings all Gonzaga scheduling needs into one program, said Kay Bachman, project manager.

The project went live in September, and streamlines reserving meeting and event rooms for faculty, staff and students. Prior to the new system “there wasn’t a comprehensive system used for scheduling,” Bachman said.

Faculty, staff and students can log in with their GU username and password at schedule.gonzaga.edu. Click Reservations at the top left of that page. There one can select either a meeting space reservation or an event reservation (such as a lecture, speaker, or conference). Select your date, time, building, room specifications, availability and technology needs. Room pictures are available to help in one’s decision.

Most important to those booking event reservations is the opportunity to have your event posted to the University Event Calendar on the GU website. Event description, flyer and photo may be included, or added at a later time. Contact Bethany Prince at ext. 6398 with questions regarding the calendar.

Different entities still have their own calendars – but instead of existing in isolated silos all calendars sync into one master calendar – known as the University Event Calendar, which can be seen by clicking “Featured Events” on the bottom left corner of Gonzaga’s main web page.

“The goal is to get a complete schedule of events so that Security knows what’s going on and Plant can plan maintenance accordingly,” said Beth Gordon, assistant manager of scheduling and events operations. It also helps event planners to look ahead and know when other events are scheduled. “We’re also able to market and find events easily. Previously there were a lot of great things going on but we didn’t know about them,” Gordon said.

It’s still possible to reserve rooms through Campus Services at ext. 6854. Certain spaces, like athletics facilities, the law school, Bozarth Mansion and the University Chapel are still reserved separately.
NOTEWORTHY

New Hires
Chris Bingley, associate vice president/chief operating officer, University Advancement; Alison Johnston, coordinator, University Ministry; Sheila LaRue, registered nurse, Health Center; Jennifer Porto, gift officer, Athletics; Chris Macabenta, custodian, Plant; Max Sharp, HVAC technician, Plant; Nicola Miller, assistant director, Center for Cura Personalis; Brian Smith, plumber, Plant; Vipul Saxena, enterprise applications developer III, IT; Lindsey Lessing, marketing specialist, Athletics; Meghan McNell, marketing coordinator, Athletics; Carolyn Cartwright, program coordinator, Leadership Resource Center; Tim Kreuch, warehouseman, Plant; Terry Rigby, general maintenance, Plant; Dee-Andra Schmidt, customer service assistant, Plant; Chandra Reiber, co-coordinator, Saturday Literacy Program; Kristin Moore, security officer; Becky Wilkey, associate director, Security; Theresa Malarkey, record management, Admission; Ayaka Dohi, admission counselor, Admission

New Positions/Promotions
Jae Webb, assistant director, Student Conduct; Gretchen Stoup, assistant director for employee relations, Human Resources; Anas Delane, lecturer-IR, Mechanical Engineering; Randi Cadena, administrative assistant, Student Development; Ken Anderson, interim dean, Business; Bud Barnes, professor, Business; JoAnne Bruce, buyer, Plant; Rob Pavon, assistant athletic director-facilities, Athletics; Cindy Perry, office coordinator, University Ministry; Brent Diebel, lecturer-IR, Philosophy; Gina Freuen, lecturer-IR, Art; Nancy Yamaura, custodial shift supervisor, Plant; Cory Kittrell, program assistant, Philosophy

Goodbyes
Brie Andrews, field officer, University Advancement; Kim Gieber, assistant to the chair, Philosophy; Terry Mitchell, plumber I, Plant; Case Pettit, buyer, Plant; Florence Robins, office coordinator, University Ministry; Markeisha Everett, marketing specialist, Athletics; Victoria Loveland, Title IX coordinator, Human Resources; Rosanne Whitney, custodian shift supervisor V, Plant; Bill Barnes, assistant women’s soccer coach; Christine Cordero, academic record evaluator, Admission; Theresa Covert, assistant to the dean, Engineering; Bernard Gbkpi, lecturer-AT, Political Science; Richard McCeland, professor, Philosophy; Gavin Smith, lecturer-AT, Math

Anniversaries
Jane Rinehart, professor, Sociology/Criminal Justice
Shari Rasmussen, associate registrar, Registrar’s Office
Matt Bafus, groundskeeper V, Plant; James Helgeson, professor, Marketing
Jane Archer, accounting assistant II, Campus Services; Oliver Pierce, sports information director, Athletics
Annette Barta, academic affairs officer, AVP
Sharon Griffith, assistant director, Financial Aid; Eden Jusic, custodian supervisor II, Plant
Mike Hommer, assistant director, Alumni Relations; Nate Greene, executive director, Ministry Institute; Dave Sonntag, assistant vice president, Marketing and Communications; Dave Gantt, head volleyball coach, Jeff Ramirez, assistant professor, Nursing; Sarah Siegel, lecturer-AT, Chemistry; Christy Watson, research coordinator, Chemistry & Biology

Craddle Call
Keith Kelley, case manager, Student Support Services, and wife Kendra welcomed Margaret on Nov. 22. Eric Cunningham, associate professor, History, and wife Gretchen welcomed Frederick on Nov. 22.

Focus On … Lindsay Way

David Lindsay saying goodbye March 7.

It may surprise some to hear an administrator talk about the evolution and oversight of the Kennel Club as one of his favorite projects.

But David Lindsay has never been stuck thinking inside a box. When he was appointed director of student activities at Gonzaga around 2003, he was first asked to help Student Life Vice President Sue Weitz plan the new student center, aka Hemmingson Center.

“Then she said, ‘the Kennel Club has no advisor,’ so I took that on. They needed someone to oversee student orientation, so I took that on, too . . . it’s the Gonzaga way, right?” said Lindsay, who will retire March 7 to spend more time skiing, whitewater rafting and caring for his 92-year-old mother. “What a privilege it will be to be there for my mom.

“I love standing on the floor and watching the Kennel Club do their things,” said Lindsay, who, by the way, had brown hair when he began his job at GU. “This is a different organization than when I took over. They told me flat out that they didn’t need me. We formalized operations, including financials. Students didn’t like that at first, but now it’s a well-oiled, well-organized machine. The 16-member student board of directors now creates organizational standards, marketing plans, and behavioral expectations for tent city and the games.”

The outdoor program has seen the largest and most diverse growth over the past few years. “We deal with risk management, venues and organization. But the students plan 98 percent of the activities,” Lindsay said.

He recalls the 2006 West Coast Conference basketball tournament, which Gonzaga hosted. “Our GSBA president, Nick Perrault, wanted to have a fireworks show after the men’s championship game as fans exited the arena, hoping we would win, of course. The old postal annex was nothing but rubble, and our firework advisers said that would be the perfect spot from which to launch the fireworks show. So we win the tournament, the fans start to make their way out of McCarthy and I give the ‘go’ signal, and the fireworks begin . . . not more than a second later every car alarm in the parking lot was set off. What do you do? Nick and I just started running away like a couple of guilty kids,” Lindsay laughed.

Weitz remembers another story. “One year I had an intern from Barbados. He was an Olympic hurdler. He had never seen snow, and David thought, ‘He’s in great shape. Let’s take him to Silver Mountain for snowboarding.’ David put him on the snowboard, then got nervous. So he told Steven he’d have to slide all the way down the hill on his butt. It wasn’t what David had imagined, but when Steven got to the bottom of the hill, he told David it was his best Gonzaga experience.”

That’s what Lindsay has done, made life fun for students here. It’s the Lindsay way.

Reviewing campus safety, security

Gonzaga is undertaking a year-long, five-pronged approach to creating a safe environment on and off campus for students. Leading the project is Vice President for Student Development Judi Biggs Garbuio, who began work on this with Campus Security last summer.

“By taking a multi-faceted approach we will reach a broader cross-section within and outside the University community,” said Biggs Garbuio, “while creating the best possible environment for students, faculty and staff.”

The initiatives include:

- A Campus Safety and Security Task Force convened at the start of spring semester to establish clearly defined goals and objectives for the services that must be provided by Campus Safety & Security to ensure a safe learning environment for students, faculty and staff on campus or in the surrounding community. The task force will examine the organizational structure of Campus Safety & Security and its resources; education and prevention initiatives; risk reduction through environmental design; and collaboration with the neighborhood, landlords and the city.

- An online questionnaire was distributed to a random sample of students, faculty and staff in January that focused on safety issues both off and on campus. The questionnaire closes in mid-February and the results will be distributed to the Campus Safety and Security Task Force to inform their work as well as to the greater university community.

- A review of all policies in the Student Handbook is under way, including the policies on weapons, fireworks, explosives, alcohol and drugs.

- The University has applied for a grant to conduct an asset-based community development model in the Logan Neighborhood.

- A year-long series of campus conversations will engage the community in meaningful dialogue around highly charged issues, including security concerns. In December, GSBA sponsored a well-attended town hall in which students could ask questions of a panel of experts about security in the Logan neighborhood. GSBA has another town hall scheduled for Feb. 6 where representatives from the Spokane Police Department will be highlighted.
Hemmingson update

Work progresses on the Hemmingson Center, due for completion in summer 2015. Two wells have been installed adjacent the center, one of which will pump water up from the Spokane Aquifer, run it through a heat exchanger to heat and cool the building, and send it back into the aquifer through a return well. The process never exposes the aquifer to contaminants. This is just one aspect of the construction that is expected to lead to LEED certification. Foofings and foudations have been poured. Next steps are installation of underground utilities followed shortly by the installation of structural steel to support the first floor. Spokane’s Piersol Construction has done the excavation work thus far, Lydig Construction of Spokane has done all the concrete work, and Mackin and Little of Spokane will complete the plumbing work. See gonzaga.edu/HemmingsonCenter for construction photos and time-lapse videos.

President addresses future, kind of education Gonzaga will provide

President Thayne McCulloh touched on both new and familiar themes in his comments to the Spring Faculty Conference:

He reiterated his concern that our nation’s support for “traditional” higher education is waning; this shows up in decreased federal and state support. It also appears in a drawdown of corporate support for graduate education — leading to fewer instances of employers paying for graduate school.

The legal profession and legal education have been hit hard by the recession. Low enrollment at the law school is a continuing concern; as well, intense competition between institutions for graduate students is creating challenges in some graduate programs. McCulloh indicated there would be a need for focused discussions and informed decisions going forward regarding the role of Gonzaga’s graduate programs.

In keeping with the faculty conference focus, McCulloh also emphasized the importance of dialogue and collaboration in expressing Gonzaga’s values and priorities. He also stressed the importance of collaborative work among faculty as a way to model our values for students to see and to learn from.

On a positive note, the president described a continuing strong need for “the kind of integrative education experience that Gonzaga has so successfully provided.” He included several characteristics of an “integrative education.” First, students develop a deeper appreciation for the discipline they study. Second, they assume greater personal responsibility for their own conduct and an awareness of the impact this has on others. Third, they develop a set of personal values that includes caring for others. As well, they grow in their understanding of their faith.

“These experiences do not happen automatically and they do not happen as a normal function of the human developmental cycle,” McCulloh said. “They happen as a result of intentional effort; they happen as a result of mentorship and modeling, experimentation and learning.”

Finally, evaluation of the new strategic plan is under way. Distribution of a draft strategic plan is taking place now, with announcements regarding the process for discussion and comment to follow.

February home hoops schedules

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Private swim lessons offered at Rudolf Fitness Center

Rudolf Center is offering private swim lessons for all experience levels and ages, including Gonzaga students, staff and faculty (including their children, spouses and grandchildren). Thirty-minute lessons are scheduled once a week for five weeks. Session 1 began last week and runs through March 2. Session 2 begins March 21 and runs through April 27. Cost is $85 for one session or $150 for two. To register or get additional information, contact Tracey Holman at holman@athletics.gonzaga.edu or ext. 4252.

WCC changing Vegas tourney format

With the addition of Pacific as the 10th team in the West Coast Conference this year, the WCC men’s and women’s basketball tournament format has changed.

Scheduled for Las Vegas’ Orleans Hotel, or “Gonzaga Central,” the tournament will open Thursday, March 6, with women’s opening-round games at noon and 2:30 p.m., and men’s first-rounders at 5 and 8:30 p.m. In these games, regular-season No. 7 finisher will play No. 10, and Nos. 8 and 9 will play. Losers are out.

Thursday’s women’s winners will play regular-season No. 1 and No. 2 in quarterfinal games, while Nos. 3-6 and Nos. 4-5 play in the other quarterfinal games on Friday, March 7. The men take the court on Saturday, March 8, for their four quarterfinal games (the two evening games broadcast on ESPNU). All quarterfinal game times are noon, 2:30, 6 and 8:30 p.m. Sunday is a day off, with women’s semifinal games Monday, March 10, at noon and 2:30 p.m., men’s semifinals at 6 and 8:30 p.m. The championship games are Tuesday, March 11, with the women playing at 1 p.m. and the men at 6 p.m.

Tickets are available through the WCC website at WCCsports.com, or through the Orleans Arena website, orleansarena.com. All-tournament passes (for admission to all men’s and women’s games) range from $133-$498. Availability is limited. An all-women’s games pass is $33 for general admission.

The WCC will honor 10 new members to the WCC Hall of Honor with a brunch March 8 at 9 a.m. Gonzaga’s Kelley Cunningham Spink (volleyball, 1989-1992) will be inducted into the Hall along with a representative from each of the other nine schools. The 10 recipients will be acknowledged at halftime of the March 8, 6:30 p.m. men’s quarterfinal game at the Orleans Arena.

A Catholic Mass will be celebrated at the Orleans Hotel, March 9, 10 a.m. Gonzaga Alumni Relations Office has lined up pre-game socials for all Gonzaga games, a Sunday golf tournament and a bowling tournament.