Industrial/Collaborative Partnerships/Projects

Dina Mansour-Cole, Ph.D., received a $7,000 sponsored-research contract with ITT for a project titled “Enhancing Virtual Collaborations.”

Professor Deandra Travis was part of a research team that conducted a study of the management of the U.S. Army’s All-American Bowl. The team completed a detailed report for the planning team and presented its findings and recommendations in March 2007. The team is in the process of preparing an article based on this data.

Linda Hite, Ph.D., conducted training on workforce diversity for Fort Wayne Metals.

Meet Deandra Travis

We would like to introduce you to our newest faculty member Deandra Travis. She comes to us from the University of Texas at San Antonio where she is working on her doctoral degree in Organization and Management Studies. She has a B.A. in Sociology and Spanish from the University of Notre Dame and an M.B.A. from the University of Saint Francis. She is currently teaching OLS 252: Human Relations in Organizations and OLS 274: Applied Leadership. Her research interests include discourse and emotions in organizations, organizational change, and leadership. Her work has appeared in the Academy of Management Journal and The Leadership Quarterly.

Dina Mansour-Cole was recognized on the Giving Hearts Honor Roll presented by the northeast Indiana chapter of the Association of Fund Raising and Philanthropy Professionals for work with the Girl Scouts of Limberlost Council.

Brenda Groff was a recipient of a Remnant Trust grant.

Other News

Max Montesino was awarded the John P. Ulmer Award for Service to Students of Color and with Disabilities at the IPFW Honors Convocation.

Chair’s Corner

It is graduation time at IPFW and approximately 90 OLS majors will earn their degrees and embark on new journeys and adventures. The OLS faculty and staff congratulate the class of 2008 and extend wishes to all of those students graduating this year.

The 2007–08 academic year has proven to be a year of changes . . . Effective July 1, OLS will become a division within the College of Engineering, Technology, and Computer Science. We are excited about this organizational change and anticipate it will lead to more collaborative initiatives with other departments within the college. The division’s offices will remain in Neff Hall.

A couple of noteworthy changes in OLS faculty also have occurred. We are very pleased that Deandra Travis joined the OLS faculty in August. Find out more about Professor Travis by reading the faculty spotlight in this issue. In other news, we regrettably bid farewell to Professor Brad Gilbreath who has accepted a faculty position at Colorado State University–Pueblo. We will miss you, Brad!

In addition to the master’s program, the division has gained approval to offer a graduate certificate in OLS. This 15-credit hour certificate serves as another option for students wishing to gain additional coursework beyond the bachelor’s degree. Please contact Linda Hite, director of graduate studies, if you are interested in information regarding this certificate or the master’s degree (Jitel@ipfw.edu or 260-481-0516).

In this issue of Leadership News is an article written by Derek Byerley, an OLS student, describing his co-op experience, and academic advisor Dave Cleveenger’s satirical take on the history of advising. We hope you enjoy this issue and please, when you get a chance, let us know what’s new in your life.

Advisor’s Corner

The Oldest Profession

Have you ever been faced with an unexpected opportunity to reflect on your life or your work activities or perhaps your next trip to Starbucks? Well, I had such an opportunity one recent Saturday afternoon while I was waiting for my wife, Jan—or as she is known in sumo circles, Kung Pao—to finish her sumo lesson. We were at the Sum Dumi Luc Academy of sumo wrestling where Kung Pao has been taking lessons for the last three years.

I was sitting in the car waiting for the class to end, and for the academy attendants to drag Kung Pao out to the car and dump her in the rear seat (she’s getting too big for the front seat), when I wondered if there were sumo advisors like we have academic advisors at IPFW? When did advising start to be a profession? What is the history of advising? Where is the nearest bathroom? However, I found that pure advising, that is to educate others, has been around for thousands of years. The earliest evidence of sumo advising that I found was pictured in a piece of Japanese art from the 12th century. It has been around for a long time and is still very prevalent.

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Gilbreath Moves to Colorado

Associate Professor Brad Gilbreath has accepted a position at the Hasunai School of Business at Colorado State University—Pueblo. "We have mixed emotions about leaving IPFW," Gilbreath said. "We have enjoyed our work and colleagues at IPFW and it's hard to believe Erin [his wife and IPFW's Director of Assessment] and I have been in Indiana for nine years!"

"I'm excited to see what the future holds in Colorado," Gilbreath said. "It's a fresh start and an opportunity to contribute to a new institution."

Gilbreath said he is looking forward to new challenges and opportunities in Colorado. "I'm excited about the potential of growth and development in Colorado," he said. "I'm particularly interested in the opportunity to collaborate with colleagues and students in diverse and dynamic environments."