CIE Family Portrait

The CIE family is large and complex. Taking the entire population of students, staff, and faculty who have been associated with CIE, we find that 43% have come from North America, 23% from Africa, 19% from Asia, and about 5% from each of Latin America and Europe. Representation from the Middle East, the Caribbean, Central Asia, and South Pacific is between 1% and 2% each.

The gender composition of CIE has changed appreciably over the decades with the percentage of females changing from 33% in the 1970s, to 45% in the 1980s, to 57% in the 1990s, and then settling back to 51% so far in the 2000s.

As of November 2007, students at CIE have earned 257 doctorates and about 300 masters degrees, of whom more than 60 of the masters candidates entered the doctoral program here. Currently there are about 55 degree candidates on campus of whom 13 are masters candidates.

There have been losses in the family as well... 26 people have passed away including faculty, staff, and graduates. We hope to honor all of them in some way at the 40th Anniversary Conference.

Projects Recruit CIE Students

As part of the Higher Education Project in Afghanistan, seven Afghan students arrived at CIE for the Fall 2007 semester. Each of them is a member of the Faculty of Education in an Afghan University, and all are engaged in the training of secondary school teachers in Afghanistan. During the Fall Semester they have been taking intensive English classes, working on developing study and computer skills, and preparing for further study. When they successfully complete the preparation phase, they will enter the CIE Masters program, with the goal of returning home as leaders in their universities.

Endowment Fund Grows

The endowment continues to grow from the generosity of CIE folks and, of course, with the ups and downs of the market that you read about in the daily news! As of the end of October, the fund stood at a value of just under $230,000. After a long campaign, we are nearing our original goal of $250,000 which will then generate enough annual income to finance an assistantship for an international student – our highest priority!

We ask for your help once a year – and THIS is the time. Please contribute NOW while you are thinking about it. Make checks out to UMass and mail them to CIE. NOTE – you can now contribute to CIE online with a credit card – see below!

Use a Credit Card to contribute to CIE

Go to https://www.umass.edu/development/give/ At the bottom of page choose School of Education, then use drop menu to choose CIE.

The CIE Family: Reducing the Degrees of Separation

A Celebratory Conference

June 12-15th 2008

CIE members of all generations will gather in Amherst to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the founding of CIE. Everyone who has been associated with the Center since its inception in fall 1968 is invited.

The program will offer opportunities for sharing the development experiences of our members, for professional growth, to renew friendships and professional linkages, and for celebration and reflection on what we have accomplished and what we hope to accomplish.

We are expecting 200 to 300 CIE members to participate during the weekend, including CIE faculty – active and retired, graduates, staff, current students, and other associates.

Mark the Dates on your Calendar. Visit the new 40th section of CIE’s web site. http://www.umass.edu/cie/40th

The theme of this year’s newsletter is the CIE network and how we can strengthen each other professionally and personally through our connections. Six degrees of separation is the theory that anyone on the planet can be connected to any other person on the planet through a chain of acquaintances that has no more than five intermediaries – according to the website www.whatis.com.

The degrees of separation in the CIE family may be more like three – something that would be worth studying. The articles in this newsletter reflect some of the many ways that CIE members work together within and across the four decades. In this newsletter and with some research we will be undertaking, we will attempt to measure some of the characteristics of our network and, more importantly, seek to enhance its usefulness to all its members.

CIE Connects @ CIES

In March 2007, the CIE network was strongly present at the CIES conference in Baltimore. A total of 31 CIE members, current students and graduates, were on the program! There were three panels organized and sponsored by CIE. The first was a retrospective look at the Learning for Life project in Afghanistan with a panel that included people from all phases of the project (see picture). The second CIE panel featured five current CIE students, each talking about an educational challenge in an emergency context – South Sudan, Afghanistan, Sierra Leone, and Kosovo. The third panel focused on Perspectives on Identity Formation in International Education practice and featured four other CIE students.
Many CIE folks are or have been in positions of leadership. An unusual confluence currently has four CIE members (that we know of) serving as Chiefs of Party for large USAID-funded education projects! In Afghanistan Julio Ramirez now leads the BESS project (primary teacher education) and Anita Anastacio heads up PACE-A (community based education). In Zambia, Ed Graybill directs the CHANGES2 project (health, HIV/AIDS, girls & community education), while in Egypt Jane Benbow became the COP for the ERP project (school-based reform for quality education) in June 2007.

CIE Responds to the 40th

Ginger and I are looking forward to being there. I'd be happy to do a presentation and we can talk about the theme that would work best for folks. Bill Smith [1970s].

I will help support the Amherst contingent....I'm very glad this is happening. Thanks for pulling it together. Saludos y recuerdos, Alan Hurwitz [1980s].

I am currently based in Shanghai as an independent consultant. I hope to make the June event and will send in updated bio information. Patrick Burns [1990s].

I am more than willing to help the collection of email addresses and distribution of the necessary information for the 40th. Tigran Tovmasyan [2000s].

CIE Endowment Fellow

Farida Fleming has worked in Australia, South East Asia and the Pacific over the past 10 years as a teacher, facilitator and project manager. She brings an interest in integrating her practice with theory and connecting with a larger community based on similar values. Recently, Farida worked with art teachers in Aceh who developed psychosocial programs for children in the post-tsunami context. At CIE, I have found a community of people living and working from a shared set of values. Being here allows my thinking and practice to be challenged, supported, and extended. I feel lucky to have found friends, mentors and colleagues here.

Valerie Haugen, who is currently a Senior Education Advisor for AusAID, has been notable active in recruiting new CIE members. Valerie was responsible for recruiting the following: Duong van Thanh, Hong Nguyen, Majid Khan and Farida Fleming. The first two have finished their degrees. Majid is working on his dissertation and Farida joined CIE in Fall 07.

Projects revitalize CIE linkages

CIE will travel to Senegal and The Gambia to begin work on the Learning Initiatives for Rural Education project (LIRE), a 13 month multi-grade demonstration school initiative. The LIRE team is partnering with the National Council for Negro Women where Mbarou Gassama Mbaye currently serves as a Managing Director in Senegal.

The Adult Transitions Longitudinal Study (ATLAS), a five-year research project following 300 US GED holders in their transition to college and beyond, has benefited from the participation of Sherry Russell and Wendi Carman in collecting data. Several CIE members also serve on ATLAS’s advisory board.

The Recruited

New students this fall have their own stories to tell....

Erin Myers talked with Don Graybill …He became nostalgic about CIE - the legacy of Paulo Freire, the Tuesday meetings, the dynamic lasting learning. . .the banter, the laughter, the projects, the retreat, and the lifetime friends he made.

I was a CIE master’s student. Leah Kaira and Maxwell Nkhokwe kept encouraging me to come back and finish what I started. Leah was very influential – Martha Nyongani

I met Ash Hartwell in a small plane in Southern Sudan working on an RFA. this really drew my attention to the meaning of ‘applied’ program with faculty spending time in the field – Wendy Wheaton

David Kahler and James MacNeil said this to me: “You will be at home in CIE. The multicultural environment and the experience that various members bring to the center will enrich your knowledge and broaden your world view“ – Konda Chavva

A Few Degrees

...Cole and Jenny Genge recently moved from Bolivia to Bangkok. Cole is working on a regional environmental protection project.

Fritz Affolter is now in Luanda, Angola, with UNDP on a human rights education project – Vachel Miller in Kampala

CIE Student Partners with IEP

Rebecca Paulson, a masters candidate, spent several weeks of October in Mali to deliver training on instructional time for the World Bank. She writes: We teamed up with a local partner, the Institut d’Education Populaire (IEP), run by two Center graduates, Debbie Fredo and Maria Keita. We trained a group to measure time off-task in the classroom. It was fantastic to work with CIE members and to see what an impact they are making in Mali.

A CIE Networker

Jane Benbow is one of the CIE members who is particularly active as a networker – helping to knit the CIE family together. Some of her recent linkages include: While director of EQUIP 1, John Hatch was my CTO and I worked on publications with Hassan Mohamed and another with Ash Hartwell. At meetings of the Basic Education Coalition, I conferred with Julio Ramirez and with Patrick Fine. At meetings of the INEE I interacted with Margaret Mclaughlin. She spoke with Mark Lynd about work in the Sudan and talked with Laura Ivey on her way to Malawi for AIR. Jane has now moved to Egypt where she occasionally sees Doc Coster and Jeanne Moulton.

CIE Web site has about 200 bio-sketches by decade. Our goal is 300 before the 40th Conference. Please either update yours so it is current or send us one if you are not there. Send to dre@edu.umass.edu