

# Madonna University Academic Communicator

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## NCA Evaluators Arrive on January 19

After more than a year of preparation, Madonna University looks forward to hosting a team of eight consultant-evaluators from the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA) for its ten-year accreditation review. Led by Dr. Paul Jacobson from Saint Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa, the team members will validate the contents of the University's self-study documents by meeting with students, faculty members, administrators, trustees, and members of the external community. At the end of the visit, the team will share its impressions of the University's strengths and weaknesses and offer advice for continued growth and development of the University and its programs. The team's report will then be sent to the Commission on Higher Education at NCA, which will vote on the University's continued accreditation.

In addition to the routine decennial accreditation review, the University is also seeking approval to offer distance learning programs via technology throughout the State of Michigan as well as to deliver courses on site in Pakistan. These approvals spring from the University's plans for future growth.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for the University to showcase its major accomplishments over the last ten years," remarked Dr. Ernest Nolan, Vice President for Academic Affairs. "During the decade since our last review in 1989, Madonna College became Madonna University and committed itself to achieving greater distinction as a private, comprehensive university, integrating liberal arts and career preparation. It continues to have a promising future."

## CAPHE Faculty Roles Project Wraps Up

In December 1997, the CAPHE-CIC "Faculty Roles, Faculty Rewards, and Institutional Priorities" Project officially ended, but the effects of the project will continue to accrue in the months to come. Focused on three concrete activities, the project has resulted in revision of the Faculty Handbook, a professional portfolio option for the faculty performance review, and an electronic database template with which faculty members may record their diverse accomplishments. However, as acknowledged by Dr. William Plater, evaluator for the project, "Behind these concrete goals. . .there was a larger, more fundamental plan to engage in institutional reform by creating the capacity for incremental change and transformation by design instead of disruption. . .The foundation for this transformation has been laid through the project" (Evaluation report, January 5, 1998). The legacy of the project is its usefulness in preparing Madonna University to meet the forces of change in higher education today that are reshaping the nature of faculty work, changing the way faculty members allocate their time, and expanding faculty roles and responsibilities.

*"This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase our major accomplishments over the last ten years."*



*The CAPHE project addressed a more fundamental plan to engage in institutional reform by creating the capacity for incremental change and transformation*

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*The School of Business has taken leadership in exploring the use of asynchronous computer-mediated instruction.*



## School of Business in Cyberspace

Management on-line! Finance via the Internet! The School of Business has taken leadership in exploring instructional delivery modalities that utilize the full range of options made available by technology through the development of two new programs: Online Multidegrees in National and International Business, better known as OMNIBUS, and the Cohort Online Program, known as COP. Both programs will allow students to earn degrees from their homes or businesses— anywhere they can access e-mail and the Internet.

The OMNIBUS program is a collaborative effort between Madonna University and Schoolcraft College. Students begin at the community college, taking both Madonna and Schoolcraft courses, and work toward earning an associate's degree from Schoolcraft College. Then they become exclusively Madonna University students, working first on the bachelor's degree and then the master's. All courses are delivered through technology, including video, audio, e-mail, and the Internet. The program was initiated in September 1997, with 38 students in the first cohort. So far the students are primarily those who would find it impossible to come regularly to campus for classes—homebound individuals, working adults with multiple work and family commitments, and students who travel routinely for their employment.

The COP program, which will be initiated in September 1998, involves two existing master's programs delivered exclusively through asynchronous computer-mediated instruction: the Master of Science in Business Administration (MSBA) in leadership studies and the Medical and Dental Practice Administration Executive Fellows MSBA Program. These programs will begin with a preparatory course, informally known as "business bootcamp," which focuses on integrating the various business functions that will be addressed in the program and preparing students to take full advantage of the innovative learning strategies upon which the program depends.

A subcommittee of the Curriculum and Educational Policy Committee has begun a study of online courses with the goal of considering standard guidelines for such courses. Headed by Dr. James Novak, the subcommittee will issue its report by May 1998.

### **Jerry Charbonneau Chosen as Rotary "Ambassador"**

*Jerry Charbonneau was awarded a \$10,000 Ambassadorial Teaching Grant from Rotary International District 6400. This fellowship will allow Jerry to spend three-months teaching and doing research in Mexico during 1998-99. In addition, Jerry will continue to develop other exchange opportunities with Mexican universities for students and faculty members.*

## Service Learning Program Launched

In keeping with its mission of educating individuals for truth and service, Madonna University is about to launch a service learning program that will provide students with the opportunity to earn credit for performing service in the community. Although opportunities to volunteer service have been available to students through campus ministry and other organizations since the founding of the University, this program will engage students in reflection on the learning that

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they experience while performing service. In addition to setting learning objectives for the experience, students will also be evaluated by a faculty mentor according to those objectives. With a pledge of seed money from the Kellogg Foundation, the University expects to begin the program during winter semester 1998, with Dr. Neal Haldane, head of the journalism program, as project director. Neal will bring together faculty members who already include service in their classes to establish common guidelines and procedures as well as promote new models for including service learning.

*Service learning reflects the University's founding mission of service.*

**Dr. Stanley Ngeyi Chosen for Project Kaleidoscope**

*As an acknowledgement of his contributions to science education, Dr. Stanley Ngeyi was selected as a member of the Faculty for the 21st Century by Project Kaleidoscope, a national project supported by the Exxon Educational Foundation. Being chosen means that Stanley will be invited to national conferences for science educators and be part of a network of colleagues across the nation*

**New Initiatives – New Opportunities**

**Collaboration with New Horizons Computer Learning Center**

The School of Business and art department are collaborating with New Horizons to provide more options in software training. Students may earn college credit for classes taken at New Horizons, with the value-added component of a Madonna University faculty member working with them to integrate this experience into their academic program.

**Summer Institute for Gifted and Talented High Schoolers**

The University has been funded by the State of Michigan for its sixth Summer Institute. In July 1998, 120 high school students will be on campus for two-weeks, getting a taste of college life.

**General Motors Grant for Educating Workers**

General Motors has awarded a \$50,000 grant to the College of Continuing and Professional Studies to develop new formal and informal strategies for providing educational programming to GM workers in Livonia and surrounding communities. Much of the project will involve working with employees, management, and the GM educational consultants to identify the educational needs of workers and develop classes, workshops, lecture series, and other strategies to meet those needs.

**Cooperative Teacher Certification Programs**

The Madonna University department of education has forged linkages with Rochester College and William Tyndale College to provide their students will the opportunity to gain State teacher certification. Students take classes at Madonna and their home institution to fulfill certification requirements.



*Special programs address the educational needs of targeted groups.*

## Ameritech Funds On-Line Hospice Course

Madonna University was awarded a \$25,000 grant from Ameritech and the Michigan Colleges Foundation to develop and offer an on-line course on palliative care--the regimen of pain control administered to terminally ill patients to order to help them face their final days with dignity. The course will be offered via the Internet to health care workers in the United States and across the globe who need specialized training in this important aspect of hospice. Serving as the Project Director is Dr. Patricia Vint, instructional media design specialist; the principle consultant for the project is Sister Cecilia Eagen, Ph.D., a nationally and internationally recognized leader in hospice care.

The project also entails an international dimension through collaboration among Madonna University, the Hospice of Central Galilee in Israel, Detroit Jewish Federation, Hospice of Michigan, and Angela Hospice. The on-line course in palliative care will be one of the ways that Madonna University will cooperate to educate hospice workers in Israel, where the hospice movement is beginning to gain momentum.



### Dr. Richard Fox to Present Paper in Rome

*Dr. Richard Fox will present a paper on his current research at the March 14-21, 1998, meeting of the International Atlantic Economic Society meeting in Rome, Italy. Dr. Fox continues to study the effects of natural disaster on the finances of health care organizations.*

### Important Dates

- NCA Evaluators' Visit –**
  - January 19-21, 1998
- February Faculty Colloquium –**
  - February 6, 1998 – HIV/AIDS
- Humanities Colloquium Series –**
  - February 6/10, 1998 – *Tortilla Curtain* by T. C. Boyle
  - April 3/7, 1998 – *Snow Falling on Cedars* by David Guterson
- Second "Students First" Training Session: Confrontational Skills –**
  - May 15, 1998

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