

# FCC NEWSLETTER

Fontbonne Community Connection – A Women's Giving Circle

January, 2011--Edition #4

GRANT RECIPIENT UPDATES:	<i>Final 2009-2010 Grant Recipients' Reports</i>
FEATURED UPCOMING EVENT:	<i>Members "Benefit" Event on February 4</i>
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## Grant Recipient Updates

*This month's issue features the final four grant recipient updates from our 2009-2010 funding cycle. Reports from our 2010-2011 recipients will begin in our April edition of the Newsletter.*

With their initial FCC Grant for the **Belize Collaborative Project** (during the 2008-2009 funding cycle), Dr. Gale Rice, Chair of Communication Disorders and Deaf Education, partnered with Dr. Gene Schwarting, Professor of Education/Special Education, to develop a screening system to identify previously unknown "special needs" children (3 & 4 year-olds) for whom no help existed in that country. Four Fontbonne students helped them train a number of pre-school teachers while using screening instruments in a pilot program for selected schools.

The following year, the Dr. Schwarting was awarded FCC funding for the **BELIZE OUTREACH PROJECT** which again allowed the two faculty members to travel to Belize, this time for the purpose of conducting training sessions with both special education and early childhood education officers across the country. Dr. Schwarting and Dr. Rice emphasized that the screening project will now belong to Belize and the implementation process has recently been taking place throughout the rural areas. Both faculty express their sincere gratitude to the FCC for the funding with Dr. Schwarting stating specifically, "the project could not have been done without the grant."



Dr. Gene Schwarting works with a young child.



Dr. Gale Rice conducts a hearing screening.



Mary Beth Gallagher describes the kiosk to Karen Gedera during the unveiling event on February 18, 2010.

The "**PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE PROJECT**" grant provided funding to create a video kiosk that presents the dynamic partnership between Fontbonne and the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. The FCC grant funded high quality video interviews of seven CSJs who played key roles in Fontbonne's history. As a result, students, faculty, staff and visitors to campus can learn about the heritage of Fontbonne through personal reflections and historic photos.

*Just a portion of the videos are being used in the current kiosk display. Clips can be swapped in the future to keep the display fresh. Mary Beth Gallagher, the Assistant to the President for Mission Integration, states "I am so grateful! The video kiosk allows so many people to share in the beautiful history of Fontbonne."*

The ripple effects from the FCC's funding of the **BOSNIA MEMORY PROJECT** have been truly amazing! FCC support has contributed significantly to enhancing Fontbonne's public image and advancing the project's aims and visibility. Student enthusiasm for this project has encouraged Fontbonne to continue offering the honors course on Bosnian Immigration. Dr. Ben Moore, Associate Professor of English and Director of the Bosnia Memory Project, reported that the FCC grant helped to greatly expand both local and national showings of the *Prijedor* exhibit of video interviews and photos of Bosnian genocide survivors. Examples include presentations of the exhibit this past fall at SIUE (with 23 Fontbonne students present) and at the Central Slavic Conference in downtown St. Louis. Six Fontbonne faculty and other associates gave joint presentations at both venues.

Grant funding also assisted the *Bosnian-Herzegovinian American Academy of Arts and Sciences* conference, held on campus last April, which encouraged further collaboration between Fontbonne and the Academy. The nearly 40 participants included many PhDs, MDs, lawyers and social work professionals from across the nation and abroad. Dr. Moore enthusiastically expressed his gratitude when he wrote, "I can't tell you how much the support of the FCC has meant for our project! The students, staff, and faculty who are involved are deeply appreciative, as are the members of the Bosnian community with whom we work."



Dr. Jack Luzkow, Fontbonne's Chair of History, Philosophy and Religion, speaking at the SIUE Prijedor Exhibit



Fontbonne students viewing the exhibit at SIUE.

Jason Sommer, Fontbonne Professor of English and Poet-in-Residence, received an FCC grant for his **WRITERS' READING SERIES** to bring distinguished, award winning writers to Fontbonne's campus to share their work with our University Community. High profile authors participated in the Series. **Major Jackson** is the poetry editor of the *Harvard Review* and the author of two collections of poetry, *Hoops* and *Leaving Saturn*, winner of the Cave Canem Poetry Prize and finalist for a National Book Critics Circle Award. He has received much recognition for his professional accomplishments as well as numerous additional honors for his writings. **Aleksandar Hemon**, winner of the MacArthur "Genius" Fellowship, has been hailed as one of the most important new voices in literature. He is the author of four books which have received numerous honors and much recognition. He is the editor of *Best European Fiction* and a regular contributor to *The New Yorker*. **Eleanor Wilner** is a winner of a MacArthur "Genius Grant" Award as well as grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Pennsylvania Arts Council, along with the Jupiter Prize and Pushcart Prizes. She has authored six books of poetry. **Richard Burgin** is a fiction writer, editor, composer, critic and teacher who has written 12 books and recently launched his new novel, *Rivers Last Longer*, at Fontbonne! He has received numerous accolades and awards, including five Pushcart Prizes. Jason concluded his written report on this project by stating, "It remains only for me to say how grateful I am for the way the FCC has enriched our life at the University."



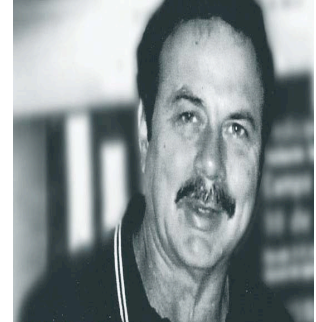
Major Jackson



Aleksandar Hemon



Eleanor Wilner



Richard Burgin

# Upcoming Members "Benefit" Event Reminder

Hurry...February 4 is right around the corner!

The FCC Events Committee has planned a fun morning of fabulous fitness tips and friendship! The program will include two 45-minute participation sessions in the Mabey Gymnasium to introduce you to the enjoyment and health benefits of *Tai Chi* and *Zumba*®.



The newly renovated Fine Arts Gallery (an FCC Grant project) will serve as the setting for our healthy “post-workout” refreshments, being offered through the assistance of our Dietetics students and faculty. An added BONUS will give us the opportunity to preview “*The Figure Now* International Juried Show 2011.” Juror, Michael Grimaldi, will join us to share his insight on pieces he selected for the show.

Check your e-mail invitation (sent 1/11/11) for all the important details of this fun, healthy event and feel free to bring a friend! **Jumpstart Your Heart and View Art! Please RSVP by Feb. 1: [vlogston@fontbonne.edu](mailto:vlogston@fontbonne.edu) or (314) 889-1412**



*In continuing our series featuring the work of a different FCC committee in each edition of the Newsletter, our third Committee Spotlight shines on the Membership Committee .*



Members of the Membership Committee with Sr. Rosemary Flanigan (l to r) Maggie Fowler, Sandra Lehrer (Chair), Joan Falk, Marcia Quint, Maribell Knickerbocker, and Kay Barnes. Not pictured Kate Gunn, Kathy Murphy, and Carol Spehr.

Our high energy **Membership Committee** is passionate about growing the Fontbonne Community Connection (FCC), *while having fun*. We work closely with the Public Relations and Events Committees to provide the very best in recruiting activities, such as the October Breakfast with Sr. Rosemary Flanigan. Along with the entire FCC, we are enjoying this year's many successes, which include expanding FCC's membership to its largest number and increasing our out-of-town membership. The Membership Committee recognizes that the FCC's ability to offer more grants is directly tied to our strategic and systematic expansion of the FCC's membership; therefore, our monthly meetings continue to strive for measurable outcomes. To this end, we are preparing for the second annual recruitment event, offering a formal orientation for new members and, in a couple of months, sharing details concerning our first Kansas City recruitment event. The Membership Committee's unofficial motto should be... *having good times while doing great work!*

## News Notes

What a memorable day it was for all who attended! On October 29<sup>th</sup>, the Membership Committee hosted a highly energized group of over 90 women who had eagerly arrived at 8:00 a.m. to enjoy each other's company, as well as a delicious continental breakfast, prior to the much-anticipated presentation by Sr. Rosemary Flanigan. It was a record turnout for an FCC event and it is surely safe to say that **no one was disappointed!** Attendees enjoyed renewing acquaintances with former classmates and recounting happy memories with Sr. Rosemary. Medaille Ballroom, tastefully decorated with pumpkins and fall foliage, offered the perfect setting for members to introduce their guests to other members who reflect the special “spirit” that IS the FCC! Final result: 2 new members and lots of fun!



Breakfast attendees.



## Did You Know ? ? ?

1. The FCC is working toward **Guaranteed Longevity**. More than **25% of our FCC members** have pledged a **five-year commitment of support for the FCC**. These pledges of support give us a strong base to build upon as we look to the future and consider the grant funding we will be able to provide for faculty, staff and students. It is also a remarkable statement of the belief our members have in our giving circle and what we are accomplishing. The five-year pledge opportunity is part of the annual membership renewal form. If you would like more information, contact Marcia at 314-889-1408 or [mquint@fontbonne.edu](mailto:mquint@fontbonne.edu).

2. **Five FCC members** have recently received recognition for their accomplishments. Dr. Susan Puetz Lenihan '75, Director of the Deaf Education Program, received the "Service to the University" Alumni Award, which honors her outstanding loyalty, service and dedication to the University and to the Fontbonne Alumni Assn. Anita Buie Lamont '69 received the "Service to the Community" Alumni Award, recognizing her significant contributions to the community, both as a professional and as a volunteer assuming leadership positions in many service organizations. Rita Marie Schmitz, CSJ '66, Professor of Education, received the "'Founders Award' for Distinguished Service in Higher Education by Preparing the Next Generation of Committed Teachers." Karen Clark Castellano '98 received the "'Founders Award' for Distinguished Service to Higher Education, the Arts and Public Institutions as a Committee Volunteer." Bonnie Eckelkamp and her husband, L.B. received the "Outstanding Fundraising Volunteers Award" from the 'St. Louis Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals.' Among her numerous fundraising leadership roles, Bonnie served as co-chair of Fontbonne's \$20 million capital campaign. Congratulations to all!



Dr. Susan Lenihan '75



Anita Lamont '69



Rita Schmitz, CSJ '66



Karen Castellano '98



Bonnie Eckelkamp

## Message From the Chair

Dear Fellow FCC Member,

Last December, I attended the Commencement at Fontbonne. The event made me proud to be able to support an institution that is bringing such quality graduates to the community and reminded me of why what we are doing is so important.

The FCC will be "ringing in the new year" with some fun and inspiring events. I am looking forward to the "Jump Start Your Heart and View Art" event being held on February 4th. (Did everyone else over-eat and under-exercise over the Holidays?)

I like to give a warm welcome to our newest FCC members: **Megan Foster**; **Lucy Hahn '65**, who is an out-of-town member living in Boise, Idaho; **Anita Lamont '69**; and **Rosemary Pfeifer**. Thank you for your commitment to our mission!

Finally a special note of thanks is in order for the fantastic response (almost 50%) to our opinion survey. We appreciate the valuable information and will incorporate it into our planning.

Karen

A new feature to watch for in our upcoming newsletters: *Inspiring quotes from remarkable women...*

"No one has ever become poor by giving." Anne Frank