

FCC NEWSLETTER



FONTBONNE COMMUNITY CONNECTION – A WOMEN'S GIVING CIRCLE

If Only Someone had Taken the Time

Fontbonne Graduate and Professional Studies faculty member, Liz Glaser was awarded a \$1,225 grant for her project, **If Only Someone Had Taken The Time**, which was focused on creating a program to reduce or eliminate bullying before it escalates to workplace violence. Her plans called for designing, developing and hosting three 3-hour seminars on campus, all with similar content but with a specific concentration targeted to: faculty and staff /students and the community.

By shedding light on behaviors that, with minimal intervention, can be changed before escalating into a violent workplace event, the general impact of these seminars was to benefit anyone who might come in contact with someone who is being bullied or bullies.

Due to unexpected staff transitions within the University, scheduling arrangements for the three seminars were unable to be concluded within the time frame as planned. Fortunately, Liz did succeed in scheduling one seminar for the benefit of the Fontbonne Graduate and Professional Studies faculty and staff.

Kate Hendron, seasoned trainer/facilitator (and wife of the perpetrator of the 2010 ABB shootings) was the key speaker and co-facilitator. From Hendron's unique vantage point

she was able to offer insightful commentary on what could have been done differently that might have produced much better results in her husband's life, and now in her life and that of their son and other victims.

An after-event survey to gather feedback from the attendees included three simple questions asking about the *usefulness* of the presentation, the *level of increased awareness* of the problem and the amount of *growth in knowledge of how to reduce bullying*. The seminar received the highest rating in each category from all who attended.

Although disappointed with the scheduling difficulties that eliminated the remaining two seminars, Liz stated that "without the FCC, the seeds of this seminar may not have been started."

She is thankful that she and Kate were able to at least start the process of getting the word out regarding this important issue and is hopeful that further opportunities may develop in the future if a different source of funding becomes available. As required by FCC policy, the unused portion of this grant reverted back to the FCC grants account.

SMART Boards in the Classroom

During the fiscal year of 2011-2012, a Technology for Teaching grant was awarded by the FCC for the purchase and installation of three SMART boards and accompanying laptops for three classrooms on the Fontbonne campus. SMART boards are computerized dry erase boards that use interactive technology to enhance the learning experience for students. Undergraduate and graduate students of four departments began to use these boards during the spring semester of 2012.

Faculty and staff were encouraged to attend a training course and pass the knowledge onto their students. Amy Peach, Instructional Technologist, is offering ongoing guidance to all students who wants to learn more. This generous gift was greatly appreciated by students, faculty, and staff at Fontbonne.



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FCC Day



The FCC was honored during Convocation Day on August 29, by saluting the members with an "FCC Day." A light breakfast was served and the assembly received a warm welcome from Dr. Golden and new FCC President, Joan Falk. Dr. Golden congratulated the group for their five years of support and for presenting over \$340,000 in grants, helping fund many opportunities for Fontbonne. Members spoke of why they had joined the FCC and why they continue to be involved with it, specifically that they have sustained programs that might never have been developed had the FCC not stepped in.



After the breakfast, members attended small group meetings for every committee within the FCC, discussing new ideas for the coming year, providing updates and socializing.

The FCC was invited to the Convocation Day ceremonies in the gym and Dr. Golden thanked the members, founding members, and former VP of Advancement, Marilyn Shepherd, for not only starting the FCC but for the tremendous growth and engagement within the program over the years. It was a beautiful sight to see the faculty proceed down the aisles in full graduation regalia, in concert with the dedicated semester, the key note speaker, Curt Ellis, talked about the food shortage in the US and how he has started an organization to help supplement this need. The students were then invited to get their stole and/or a pin to commemorate the beginning of the school year.

After the ceremony, many attended the Mass and congratulated Sister Rita Marie Schmitz on her 50th anniversary with the Sisters of St. Joseph. The ceremony was very poignant and the cloister of nuns present sang in Latin, allowing the congregation a touching reminder of the sanctity of their faith-filled history.

Lunch followed in Medaille Meadow with BBQ, chips, beans, salad, drinks and dessert.



*Never give up, for that is
just the place and time that
the tide will turn.
-- Harriet Beecher Stowe*

Mustard Seed Theatre

The Mustard Seed Theatre garnered national attention for the theatre and Fontbonne with their New Play contest. The contest, which was funded by the FCC, encouraged artists from around the country to submit their own scripts on themes of faith and social justice. Over 60 submissions were received. The first round of judging was conducted by students who narrowed the field to 15 semi-finalists. The final judging panel consisted of theatre experts from across St. Louis.

The winner of the contest was local playwright Joshua Cook. His play, *The Geography of Nowhere*, was directed by Fontbonne alum Emily Immer and presented April 22 and 23 to enthusiastic crowds at the Fontbonne University Fine Arts Theatre.

The New Play contest not only introduced Fontbonne University to artists around the country, it was a great opportunity for students to learn how a full production comes together.



FCC Members in the News

Congratulations to **Deanna Jent**, Fontbonne faculty member, FCC member and playwright, for the recent attention given to her work *Falling*.

"An award-winning play by Fontbonne University professor Deanna Jent is making its Off-Broadway premiere. *Falling*, which received the 2012 Kevin Kline Award for Best New Play, will begin an open-ended run at New York's Minetta Lane Theater, with opening night set for October 15.

The play is about an autistic 18-year-old, and how his autism affects the lives of those around him.

(Taken directly from the September 21 edition of the Ladue News).

We want to thank ALL of the ladies for showing us just what it means to serve the community and be an outstanding example of an FCC member!

Coming Events

FCC 2012-2013 Events and Important Dates

Thursday, November 15, 2012, 7:00 PM

Fine Arts Spotlight—Reception followed by a Mustard Seed Theatre's performance of "Imaginary Jesus"

Monday, February 25, 2013, 5:00-6:30 PM

Communications Disorders Spotlight—presentations by the Aphasia Boot Camp and Cognitive Behavior grant recipients

Saturday, April 13, 2013, Time TBD

Human Environmental Sciences Spotlight—Lunch 'n Learn with F.R.E.S.H., Garden presentation and tour

Did you know?

- Fontbonne received more applications from top-ranked high school seniors for Fall 2012 than any other time in our history.
- Fontbonne recently announced our new Catholic High School Recognition Award. Eligible graduates of Catholic high schools can receive a \$2,000 annual tuition award. Ask us if you have friends or relatives who are eligible.
- Fontbonne graduates more special education teachers than any other college or university in Missouri. We even house a St. Louis Special Education School District classroom on campus.
- Fontbonne OPTIONS has been renamed Fontbonne Graduate and Professional Studies.

Message from the Chair



Dear Fellow FCC Member,

I started off my year as FCC President by kicking off the August 29th Strategic Planning Meeting. It opened with a lively breakfast where university President, Dr Dennis Golden, reflected on the FCC's dedicated service to Fontbonne. FCC members shared great hopes for the coming year and commented on the many dreams they had funded over the past five years. As we moved on to Convocation, the FCC was formally acknowledged for its funding and how it has benefited the university and beyond! Grant recipients celebrated with FCC members at a university-sponsored reception, and Dr. Golden

presented the FCC with a framed proclamation of appreciation. Festivities culminated with noon Mass, where FCC member Sr. Rita Marie Schmitz celebrated her Golden Anniversary as a sister of St. Joseph. What a day.

I look forward to serving the FCC membership over the next year and to growing this vibrant women's giving circle by funding even more exciting proposals!

Remember, bring a friend to the special FCC reception and opening night performance of "Imaginary Jesus" at the Mustard Seed Theatre on November 15th.

Joan Falk
President

Joan

Joan Falk, Chair, Fontbonne Community Connection

FCC 2012-2013 Officers and Committee Chairs

OFFICERS

Chair - Joan Falk

Vice Chair - Barb Atteln

Recording Secretary - Rosemary Quigley

Corresponding Secretary - Kate Gunn

Treasurer - Anita Lamont

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Awards - Kathy Von Minden

Events - Kathy Murphy

Membership - Maggie Fowler
Karen Gedera

PR - Nila Tuckson & Rosemary Quigley

Bylaws - Barb Atteln

