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Teacher educators' global challenges discussed at USA-China consortium

Teacher educators representing more than 30 schools of education at American universities, including Gallaudet's School of Education and Human Services (SEHS), and several provinces of China gathered on Kendall Green April 19-22 for the 5th Annual Conference of the USA-China Teacher Education Consortium.

The goal of the consortium is to improve teacher education in China as it prepares for the year 2000, when compulsory education is increased from Grade 6 to Grade 9. Consortium members hope that through their collaborations, the quality of teacher education—and re-education—can improve markedly.

In opening the conference, Gallaudet President I. King Jordan cited the University's commitment to teacher education and its ongoing efforts to improve the education of deaf people worldwide. Gallaudet was a member of the USA-China Teacher Education Consortium since its formation in 1986.

A number of presenters gave perspectives on challenges that educators face worldwide.

Dr. Frank Klassen, executive director of the International Council of Education for Teaching, indicated that international collaborations in education present a challenge to educators to not only gain knowledge about each other's cultures, but to accept culturally different behaviors.

Klassen said that the serious problem of international illiteracy and the accelerating pace of technological change present enormous obstacles to teacher educators. He also said that there is a growing consensus that the need for teaching be accorded higher status in all societies.

Dr. Andrew Smith, president of the American Forum for Global Education, stressed the importance of bilingual education for teachers and echoed Klassen's opinion on the importance of helping teachers become more knowledgeable about other cultures.

Eugene Martin, organizational consultant and former Peace Corps leader, led a workshop on the team planning process that will remove cultural barriers whenever future international collaborative activities in teacher education are planned between the United States and China.

Wang Chun Shan, commissioner of education for China's large northern industrial province of Liaoning, presented a plenary session on the challenges facing China today and the enormity of the task of educational reform that is underway.

In commenting on the outcome of the conference, SEHS Dean David Martin said, "The outstanding opportunity for Gallaudet to host this conference resulted in a strengthening of our own ties with teacher education in China, excellent public relations for better awareness of Gallaudet as an institution, and recognition of the critical need in the education of deaf people everywhere."

Gallaudet's relationship with its sister institution, the Liaoning Normal School of Special Education, which prepares teachers for 35 schools for deaf students in China, will enter a new phase this fall when two faculty members from the institution's teacher education program will come to Gallaudet through SEHS to study as visiting scholars. They will return home in 1992 to implement the ideas they learn in their teacher preparation program in deafness.



Marilyn Quayle, wife of U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle, greets MSSD students in the school's auditorium April 24 after giving a talk on the importance of understanding laws giving citizens with disabilities the same rights that apply to all Americans.

U.S. second lady Marilyn Quayle advises students to know their rights

Marilyn Quayle, the wife of U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle, told MSSD students April 24 that from growing up with a younger sister who is hard of hearing, "I understand the challenges each of you face. I know her struggle, and I know what it means for deaf people to live in a hearing world."

Speaking in the MSSD Auditorium during an hour-long visit, Quayle said that her sister, who went through college and is now a computer programmer and a supervisor at her job, attended a mainstream program as a child and initially had difficulties. "She was lucky to have understanding teachers and a brother and sister who could protect her from people who didn't understand people with hearing impairments," she said. Today, Quayle said, "I take a keen interest in your education and the education of deaf and hard of hearing students across the country."

Quayle, who is a law school graduate, stressed the importance of understanding legislation that protects the rights of U.S. citizens who have disabilities.

The past 18 years have been good ones for Americans who have disabilities, beginning with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and leading up to the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, "the most sweeping act since the Civil Rights Act of 1964," she said.

"The only thing that stands between you and your rights is the same as for all Americans—apathy," said Quayle. To guarantee the benefits of an era of change, Quayle encouraged the students to get copies of the rehabilitation act and the ADA

and become familiar with them.

Society's attitude toward people with disabilities has changed for the better, Quayle said, but more advances need to be made.

Commencement exercises set

Peter Jennings, anchor and senior editor with ABC's "World News Tonight with Peter Jennings," will address the 1991 graduating class this Friday, May 10, at 10 a.m. in the Field House. An estimated 358 graduates will receive degrees.

Faculty members will assemble at 9:15 a.m. in the west corridor of the first floor of Hall Memorial Building. Family and friends are asked to be in their seats by 9:45 a.m.

This year, two graduating students will address their fellow graduates: Daniel Timlen, who will receive his B.A. in education, and Lynn Pena, who will receive her M.A. in interpreting.

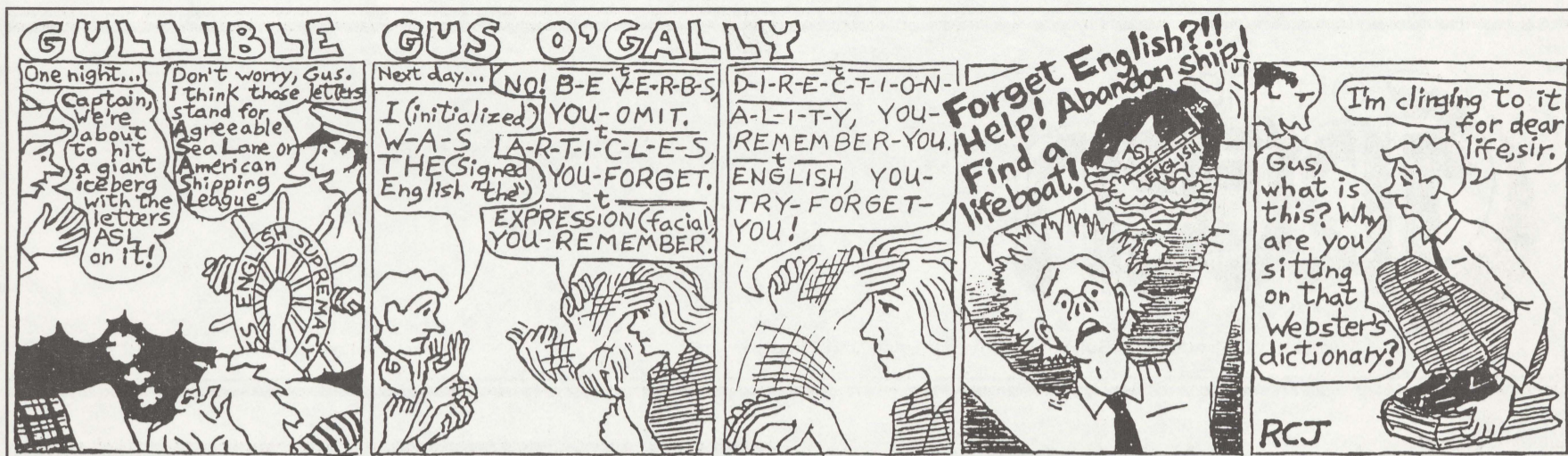
Honorary doctor of law degrees will be awarded to Senator Thomas Harkin (D-Iowa) and Howard "Rocky" Stone, executive director of Self Help for Hard of Hearing People (SHHH). An honorary doctor of letters degree will be awarded to Dr. George Montgomery, senior lecturer, professor of psychology, and director of Research Unit Donaldson Trust at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland.

Following Commencement, a reception will be held under a tent on the mall adjacent to Ely Center.

The Graduate Hooding and Awards Ceremony will be held on Thursday, May 9, at 4 p.m. in Elstad Auditorium. A reception will follow at the mall tent.



Vice President for Administration and Business Paul Kelly chats with secretaries (from left) Linda Barries (17 years), Diana Webb and Agnes Muse (16 years), and Theresa Tinch (24 years) at an April 24 reception highlighting National Secretaries Week.



Criteria established to determine proficiency on SCPI rating scale

To keep staff informed about plans to implement sign communication proficiency requirements, *On the Green* will publish a series of articles from the Personnel Office in upcoming weeks related to the topic. The Sign Communication Proficiency Interview (SCPI) Committee is working with the Staff Advisory Committee on a proposal that will be submitted to the President's Council this month. This article focuses on SCPI ratings.

Three out of the 10 ratings on the SCPI scale will be proposed as proficiency requirements for staff positions: Survival, Intermediate, and Advanced. Because the Novice level provides for only rudimentary skills and is used as the very basic goal for the intensive sign language training program, it will not be used as a proficiency level requirement.

At the other end of the scale, the Superior level is not used as a requirement for faculty and likewise will not be required for staff. (All employees, however, will be encouraged to strive for this level of communication excellence.) The "Plus" levels also will not be used as required proficiency levels, but they will be used as indicators of satisfactory progress toward the required levels.

The scale, and the definition of criteria to achieve each, is as follows:

• **Superior**—Able to use signing vocabulary and visual grammar with

superior fluency and accuracy for all formal and informal social and work needs. Comprehension of vocabulary and grammar are excellent.

• **Advanced Plus**—Exhibits some superior-level skills, but not all and not consistently.

• **Advanced**—Able to sign with sufficient accuracy and vocabulary to participate effectively in most formal and informal conversations on social and work topics. Conversation is generally fluent and shared. Comprehension and use of visual grammar are good, vocabulary is broad, and there is spontaneous elaboration on familiar topics when appropriate. Able to respond appropriately to unfamiliar topics.

• **Intermediate Plus**—Exhibits some advanced-level skills, but not all and not consistently.

• **Intermediate**—Able to satisfy with some confidence routine social demands and work requirements. Demonstrates use of some visual grammar features in connected discourse. Able to narrate and describe topics related to background, family, interests/hobbies, and work. Although some hesitations, fair to good control of everyday sign vocabulary is evident.

• **Survival Plus**—Exhibits some intermediate-level skills, but not all and not consistently.

• **Survival**—Able to satisfy basic survival needs in social and/or work situations. Can ask and answer basic questions and has some skills in creating sign utterances based on learned/memorized sign vocabulary. Can get into, through, and out of simple survival situations.

• **Novice Plus**—Exhibits some survival-level skills, but not all and not consistently.

• **Novice**—Basically limited to single sign utterances with vocabulary primarily related to everyday social, question/topic areas such as names of family members, basic objects, colors, numbers, names of weekdays, and time.

• **Below Novice**—No functional skills in signing.

The Staff Advisory Committee is offering brown bag lunches to help staff become familiar with the SCPI program and to help alleviate any anxieties that the program may have caused. Videotapes demonstrating the SCPI levels will be available for review. The SCPI and Staff Advisory Committees also want to remind staff that the purpose of the program is to improve communication and ultimately achieve a barrier-free communication environment on campus.



Willard Madsen, an associate professor in Sign Communication, receives the Dean's Award from Dr. Njeri Nuru, dean of the School of Communication, at the 4th Annual School of Communication Awards Program, held April 23.

Announcements

KDES will have its annual Science Fair in the mall area May 6-10. Displays will be Thursday, with awards presented Friday in the Kendall Auditorium at 9:30 a.m. for the Primary Department and at 12:30 p.m. for the Intermediate and Middle School departments. Students from the Child Development Center will participate on different days. For more information, call Sara Gillespie, x3034.

Programs in Adult and Continuing Education and the College for Continuing Education will begin its Deaf Enrichment and Arts Festival in Ely Center Auditorium with a June 25 lecture, "What's New in the World of Closed Captioning" by Lily Page Bess of the National Captioning Institute. The talks are open to the public.

"Summer Camps for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children," published by the National Information Center on Deafness (NICD), identifies camps, family learning vacations, and remedial clinics, and lists camp dates, clientele served, and costs. Copies are \$1 each. A list of other NICD publications will be included with orders.

The School of Management will offer the following free workshops on software applications on Wednesdays from 1-4 p.m.: May 22, Microsoft Windows; May 29, Microsoft Word; June 5, Excel; June 12, Harvard Graphics; June 19, PageMaker; and June 26, Norton Utilities.

Classified Ads

CLASSIFIED ADS are printed free as a service to Gallaudet faculty and staff. They must be submitted in writing only to *On the Green*, MSSD, Room G-37, or E-mail LMMCCONNELL. Off-campus phone numbers must include an area code and whether the number is voice or TDD. Ads may be run for a maximum of two weeks, if requested and if space permits. Ads received May 6-May 10 will be published May 20.

WANTED: Roommate, male/female, to share 2-BR apt. near Greenbelt Lake, wooded area, \$300/mo. + 1/2 utilities. Call x5502 (TDD) or x5501 (V).

FOR SALE: Large Colonial 3-BR house, N.E./Gallaudet area, enclosed porch, 1 1/2 baths, new vinyl windows, garage, new roof, move-in cond. Call Mrs. McCree, office (301) 565-5000 (V) or home (202) 396-3717 (V).

FOR RENT: Large BR to mature male/female, W/D, large kitchen, deck, near subway in Cheverly, nonsmoker, must love dogs. Call (301) 722-4014 (TDD) evs.

CLASSES: To make log cabin quilt, four 2hr. classes, your preference after 4 p.m., KDES home ec., \$40 plus materials, free consultation on fabric/color. Call Cheryl (301) 604-5846 (TDD) or E-mail CASHEVLIN.

FREE: Two cats to good home, brothers, 6 years old, neutered, no front claws, 1 black, 1 gray stripe. Call Mona, x3116.

WANTED: Sitter for older man in Arlington, Va., 2-3 eves./wk, hearing grad. student preferred, will pay. Call Helen Hayter (202) 319-2776 (V).

WANTED: Private furn. BR in Silver Spring, Md., to rent for 1-2 years, w/in 5 mins. Metro. Call Tracey, (301) 585-4059 (V/TDD) after 10 p.m., anytime weekends.

FOR RENT: Mobile home in Fenwick Island, Del., A/C, W/D, D/W, 2 baths, sleeps 6, spacious kitchen, \$60/night. Call Beth, (301) 805-1177 (TDD) or E-mail AD-BENEDICT.

FOR RENT: Large BR, \$350/mo., small BR \$300/mo., both inc. util., Hyattsville, Md., 10 min. to Gallaudet, nonsmoker, professional or graduate student, must love dogs, avail. immed. Call (301) 277-6165 (TDD/V) evs., or E-mail RLPelletier.

Job Openings

Some of the advertised positions may already be filled. The list below includes only new staff and faculty openings and does not represent all jobs available. To get a recorded message describing the complete list, call x5358 or x5359 (TDD).
PHYSICAL THERAPIST: KDES Diagnostic Support Services
SIGN LANGUAGE TRAINER: Pre-College Programs, Office of the Dean
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, SPANISH: Foreign Languages
INSTRUCTOR/ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR: Audiology, Speech-Language Pathology

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