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1991-2000 On the Green

11-9-1992

On the Green Vol. 23 No. 6 November 9, 1992

Gallaudet University

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Recommended Citation

Gallaudet University, "On the Green Vol. 23 No. 6 November 9, 1992" (1992). 1991-2000. 86. https://ida.gallaudet.edu/onthegreen_1991-2000/86

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A weekly publication for Gallaudet University staff and faculty

November 9, 1992

Vol. 23, No. 6

Partnerships of deaf/hearing educators explored

Dancing, in a literal sense, can be an enjoyable experience if the partners move to the same rhythm. Figuratively, dancing can connote a partnership undertaken by hearing and deaf educators, where an enriching versus a conflicting experience can result.

The metaphor was created by Dr. William Marshall, chair of the Department of Administration and Supervision, to publicly address a long-standing issue in the field of deaf education. The topic was explored at the second Thomas J. Landers Lectureship in Educational Administration Oct. 27 in Ely Auditorium. The lecture series was established to honor Dr. Landers, who served as the first dean of the School of Education and Human Services (SEHS).

The lecture, "To Chance the Dance: Deaf-Hearing Partnerships in School Leadership," sponsored by the Department of Administration and Supervision in SEHS, featured two presenters—Oscar Cohen, executive director of the Lexington School for the Deaf in New York City, and Gertrude Galloway, superintendent of the Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf in Trenton, N.J.

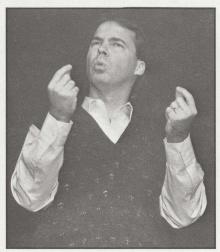
Reacting to the points raised by Cohen and Galloway were a panel of four professionals in deaf education: Dr. David Martin, dean of SEHS, Dr. Harvey Corson, vice president for Pre-College Programs, Dr. Barbara Bodner-Johnson, chair of the Department of Education, and Dr. Madan Vasishta, superintendent of the Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf.

Dr. William McCrone, professor in the Department of Counseling, moderated the lecture.

Cohen, who opened the lecture, said that for deaf and hearing partnerships to be formed in the education field, change needs to start from within individuals. "As a white, hearing male, I am a member of a dominant culture not known for its sensitivity toward change, especially change that entails giving up power, control, and authority." This mode of thinking, he said, is "the old tune we've all been dancing to since schools for the deaf were established in this country."

Cohen added that hearing administrators—himself included—can be paternalistic toward deaf people, because although caring behavior is intended, it is often oppressive. "There are occasions when my desire and need to be a caring person doesn't have all that much to do with continued on page 2







(FROM LEFT) ASL researchers Stephen Nover, Samuel Supalla, and Laurene Gallimore speak at the ASL in Schools conference.

Positive view of ASL in classroom is vital, speakers say

The success of deaf children, according to experts at a recent conference, depends on deaf and hearing educators bringing ASL into the classroom not as a problem to be managed or a teaching method to be used, but as the native language of deaf adults and children.

This opinion, conveyed by the plenary speakers at the ASL in Schools: Policies and Curriculum conference held here Oct. 28-30, was so well received by the more than 400 participants that one speaker, Laurene Gallimore, received a standing ovation.

In "How to Utilize ASL as the Language of Instruction in the Class-Gallimore, supervising teacher for the Elementary Department at the Indiana School for the Deaf and a doctoral student at the University of Arizona, Tucson, said that hearing teachers often translate children's ASL into English incorrectly and do not allow enough time for a child to answer a question. Because such errors in translation and timing are strongly influenced by culture, Gallimore said that hearing teachers must immerse themselves in the deaf community in order to acquire a fluency in ASL that goes beyond grammar to

understanding its cultural basis.
Gallimore urged both deaf and hearing people to take courses in ASL, the linguistics of ASL, and ASL literature. "You have to humble yourselves," she said. "Don't think that you know it all. Think of the children. The children are our future."

Another plenary speaker, Stephen Nover, adjunct instructor and doctoral student at the University of Arizona, Tucson, outlined the history of deaf education and its artificial sign systems in his presention "ASL and Language Planning in Deaf Education." He said that deaf education has always worked from a "language-as-problem" orientation and that this must change to a "language-as-resource" orienta-

tion with ASL being that resource.

Nover also called for more research on signed language and relations between hearing educators and the deaf community from a culturally deaf perspective. In addition, Nover said that a national signed language planning organization must be established to guide language use in deaf education and "to professionalize and systematize language planning decisions for, by, and within the deaf community."

Dr. Samuel Supalla, assistant professor and director of Sign Language Studies at the University of Arizona, Tucson, presented "Language Access and Deaf Children: Policy Considerations."

In this third plenary address, Supalla stressed that it is essential for children to have internal control of a language before they enter school and that Manually Coded English

(MCE) does not accomplish this. He believes that a child using MCE never fully develops the parents' language and that elements of ASL naturally slip into the child's signing.

"For a language to be truly effective, it has to have a structure that will match your thinking patterns," Supalla said. "With MCE, you're taking into the mind visually something that is meant to be auditory." He later added, "I say make ASL the superior language. English is not a natural language for the deaf."

All three plenary speakers said that the dissentation among deaf people regarding invented sign systems such as Signing Exact English must stop and that it is hurting deaf children.

The conference was sponsored by the departments of Education and continued on page 2



Before presenting Gallaudet with the Distinguished Service Award of the President of the United States on Oct. 30, Michael Deland, chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality, talks with (left to right) Steve Hardy, SBG president; Special Assistant to the President Jack Gannon, Vice President for Pre-College Programs Harvey Corson, math professor Harvey Goodstein, and President I. King Jordan. The award bonors those who help improve the lives of people with disabilities.

Board approves new tuition rates

Gallaudet's Board of Trustees approved tuition rates for the 1993-94 academic year at its Oct. 30 meeting on Kendall Green.

The meeting began with the board passing a resolution of support for its chair, Philip Bravin, who is recuperating from major surgery. The Hon. Thomas Jackson, the board's vice chair, conducted the meeting in Bravin's absence.

Next year's tuition fees, which were proposed to the board by the Committee on Resources, will increase from \$3,924 to \$4,300 for regular, full-time U.S. students. Based on the recent Education of the Deaf Act reauthorization, which mandates a 75 percent surcharge rate for international students instead of the current 50 percent surcharge, tuition for these students will increase from \$5,886 to \$7,525. Students' room fees will increase from \$2,810 to \$2,950, and board fees will increase from \$2,060 to \$2,160.

Resources Committee Chair Philip Sprinkle announced that 1992 was a successful year financially for the University. He said that the College Hall construction project was completed at \$600,000 below its projected cost, and the Elv Center refurbishment project was finished at 35 percent below its projected cost. Dr. Sprinkle said that the University's endowment stands at \$33.86 million, compared to \$27.9 million last year.

Dr. Mervin Garretson, chair of the Committee on Development, said that since Jan. 1, 1992, the University has raised \$6.3 million and \$700,000 in pledges, representing 72 percent of the goal for the calendar year. The figure, not including the \$12 million gift from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, is a 230 percent increase from the same time in 1991, said Garretson.

In other actions, Jackson reported that in executive session, the board, acting on a request from President I. King Jordan, approved a change in the delegation of authority policy. The president now has authority to name one vice president as the senior vice president who will act on the president's behalf in his absence. Currently, Dr. Harvey Corson, vice president for



Published each Monday for the staff and faculty of Gallaudet University by the Department of Publications and Production.

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Pre-College Programs, is the senior vice president.

Dr. Carol Padden, representing the Committee on Academic Affairs in the absence of committee chair Laurel Glass, said that the committee is interested in programs and activities related to diversity at the University and Pre-College Programs.

In his report to the board, Jordan introduced this year's Powrie V. Doctor Chair of Deaf Studies, Paddy Ladd, who recently arrived at the University from his home in England. Jordan also called on board member Richard Dysart, an actor in the television series 'L.A. Law," to relate an anecdote about how the University assisted in an upcoming episode of the show.

Dysart said that an episode about the deaf community guest starring Phyllis Frelich, scheduled to be aired on Nov. 19, was "poorly written," so he put the writer in contact with Jordan and Special Assistant to the President Bette Martin. "Thanks to them, its a much better story," said Dysart.

SAC election note

The slate of nominees running for the five Staff Advisory Committee positions in the Nov. 17 election, and the candidates' positions, will appear in the Nov. 16 edition of On the Green instead of the current issue, which was previously announced.



Northwest Campus staff and faculty moderate students' mock presidential candidate debate Oct. 22. Prophetically, the Clinton/Gore ticket came out ahead.

Health benefits open season begins

Regular and extended temporary employees with one year of service at Gallaudet may change their health insurance carrier or sign up for health insurance for the first time during the Federal Employees Health Benefits Open Season Nov. 9 through Dec. 14.

A Health Benefits Fair will be held Nov. 19, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Ely Center Multipurpose Room. The Personnel Office will present "How to Choose a Health Plan" on that day at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. in Ely Auditorium.

The fair also will be held for Northwest Campus employees on Nov. 20,

from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Main Hall Lounge. "How to Choose a Health Plan" will be presented at 11:30

For more information, call the Personnel Office at x5352, Agnes Muse at x5111, or E-mail HR_AMUSE.

Announcements

The Gallaudet Bookstore will hold a Crazy Sale Nov. 10 in the Ely Atrium, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., offering bargain prices on clothing, gifts, and supplies.

Dr. Ruth Westheimer will discuss Dr. Ruth's Guide to Safer Sex, and Surviving Salvation: The Ethiopian Jewish Family in Transition on Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington, 6125 Montrose Road, Rockville, Md. Interpreters will be provided. No one under 18 admitted. Call (301) 230-3775 for tickets.

A free workshop, "AIDS and the Deaf Community: What's Happening?" will be held Nov. 16, 7-9 p.m. at Davis Library, 6400 Democracy Blvd., Bethesda, Md. Call (301) 984-5662 (TDD) or (301) 881-3700 (V).

Partnership is topic of Landers lecture

continued from page 1 the reality of what others need from me. . . . We hearing administrators must be ready and willing to recognize and give up our neurotic need for control.

Paternalism must be replaced by mentoring relationships, said Cohen. Deaf educators can learn from the opportunities for knowledge that in the past was almost solely offered to their hearing colleagues.

Hearing educators also must be receptive to the abilities that deaf professionals in the field possess.

"We must learn to perceive deaf educators as fellow professionals who happen to be deaf," Cohen noted. "We must permit ourselves to see and acknowledge their competencies, insights, and perspectives. We must believe there is a mutual benefit to our relationship.'

Another obstacle that must be overcome in order for partnerships between deaf and hearing educators to be formed is the deep-rooted anger felt by deaf people over being opressed by the hearing society. 'Open, rational discourse between deaf and hearing people about history and reality is necessary in order for us to move on," said Cohen. "Not only must the feelings of oppression be communicated, but so too must hearing people feel free to express their feelings at being the object of anger.

Cohen, who is president-elect of the Conference of Educational Administrators Serving the Deaf, proposed that a panel address the issue at the organization's regional meeting in Baltimore, Md., and its national meeting in Philadelphia, Pa.

According to Galloway, to successfully 'chance the dance,' open communication is crucial. Good communication skills are even more essential for deaf administrators, she said, "because there will be some hearing staff members who may be terrified to talk to a deaf person." To solve this dilemma, interpreters serve a vital role. "We need to change the mentality that interpreters are for the deaf only," said Galloway.

'Oppression' is a word many deaf people use to describe negative experiences, said Galloway. "The deaf have faced so many unpleasant experiences because of deafness that we feel victimized by what we call oppression," she said. "Actually, when you analyze the situation, you will realize that the behavior is caused by insensitivity or lack of understanding. Thus, it becomes our responsibility to educate the public to help them better understand us."

ASL in schools is conference topic

continued from page 1 Sign Communication, and the College for Continuing Education. Its co-chairs were Lori Bonheyo, coordinator, Pre-College Professional Programs, Joseph Innes, assistant professor of education, Lynn Jacobowitz, assistant professor of sign communication, and Jacqueline Mann, coordinator, Extension Programs, College for Continuing Edu-

Organizations that supported the conference financially or with gifts in kind include the National Association of the Deaf's American Sign Language Teachers Association and its Chesapeake Chapter, COMTEK of Utah, and Gimmee Jimmy's Cookies of New Jersey.

Another conference, "Post Milan: ASL and English Literacy," is being planned for October 1993.

Classified Ads

Classified ads are printed free for Gallaudet faculty and staff. Ads must be submitted in writing to *On the Green*, MSSD, Room G-37, or E-mail LMMCCONNELL. Offcampus phone numbers must include an area code and whether the number is voice. or TDD. Ads may be run two weeks if requested and if space permits. Ads received Nov. 9-13 will be published Nov. 23.

FOR RENT: Furnished bedroom w/private bath in Seabrook, Md., female preferred, must like dogs, near Metro, avail. Nov. 1, \$435/mo incl. util. Call Lorre, (202) 832-6681 (TDD) or (301) 577-6264 (TDD) after 6 p.m.

FOR RENT: Deluxe 1-BR renovated apt., Capitol Hill, security system, W/D, DW, hardwood floors, \$750 mo. plus util., avail. now. Call (202) 546-1908 (V/TDD) or E-mail JLBROWN.

WANTED: Nonsmoking roommate to share home w/professional female, in Mt. Rainier, Md., no pets, no lease req., prefer grad. student or senior, \$285/mo. plus ½ util. Call (301) 779-4465 (V).

FOR SALE: Bowie, Md., townhouse w/2-3 BRs, 1½ baths, fireplace, living room, eat-in kitchen, finished basement, private driveway, near Allen Pond, new carpet, roof, and deck. Call Johnston, x5197, (301) 249-8589 (TDD) eves. or E-mail JBGRINDSTAFF.