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## HEGSO— A New Year!

Hello from the 2006-2007 HEGSO (Higher Education Graduate Student Organization) Executive Board! Elections for the new executive board were held earlier this month. The new officers for HEGSO are

**President:** Katherine Richter (first year Master's student working in the Student Activities Office.)

**V.P. for Public Relations:** Ashley Ransom (a first year Master's student working in the Hixson Scholars Program)

**V.P. for Finance:** Nick Zika (a first year Master's student working at Grandview College)



Current ELPS Students

**V.P. for Professional Development:** Cindy Peck (a first year Master's student working in American Reads America Counts).

**Secretary:** Breezy Gideon (a first year Master's students working in Financial Aid)

**Interview Days Coordinator:** John Bullcock (a first year Master's students working in Greek Affairs)

Plans for the year include fundraising, connecting with ELPS alumni to assist with professional development programming, and hosting an incredible Interview Days program. We would like to see more student involvement; one way to do this is through the Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS). This year HEGSO has the opportunity to have five seats in GPSS. The HEGSO Executive Board is looking forward to a great year! Go Cyclones!

## Reflection on Conference Involvement

### Drea Milobar, M.Ed. Candidate (Spring 2007)

Have you ever wanted to get involved with planning a professional conference? Drea shares her experience on the ISPA (Iowa Student Personnel Association) conference planning board and encourages us all to work with our professional associations.

I am a second year in the Student Affairs Master's program. I became involved with the ISPA/ICSSA Fall 2006 Conference Planning Committee this past spring and specifically served as a member of the Registration Committee. I learned about many of the intricacies involved with student affairs conference planning. I helped develop registration materials, coordinated volunteers, and assisted with set-up and check-in activities. I was also able to meet a number of student affairs professionals from all around the state. It was a very worthwhile and rewarding experience and I encourage students in the ELPS department to get involved by serving on a conference planning committee or assisting at a conference as a volunteer.

- Drea Milobar

# Faculty Updates

**Steve Porter:** Announces his 4 new publications

Porter, S.R. (2006). Institutional structures and student engagement. *Research in Higher Education*, 47(5), 521-558.

Porter, S.R., & Umbach, P.D. (2006). College major choice: A multilevel analysis of person-environment fit. *Research in Higher Education*, 47(4), 429-449.

Porter, S.R., & Umbach, P.D. (2006). Student survey response rates across institutions: Why do they vary? *Research in Higher Education*, 47(2), 229-247.

Porter, S.R., & Swing, R.L. (2006). Understanding how first-year seminars affect persistence. *Research in Higher Education*, 47(1), 89-109.

**John Schuh:** Served as the keynote

speaker at the colloquium celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Department of Business Education at Humboldt University in Berlin, Germany on September 22, 2006. The colloquium was attended by business educators from Germany in recognition of the second oldest business education program in Germany.

**Mary Huba:** Appeared as the featured presenter at the Academy for Learning through Performance Standards and Assessment, a workshop for education and liberal arts faculty who teach in teacher preparation programs throughout Georgia. The workshop, held in Marietta, Georgia from September 28 to 30, was sponsored by the Georgia Board of Regents and funded by an NSF PRISM grant.

**Nancy Evans:** Penny Rice (ELPS doctoral student) and Dr. Evans presented the program, *Creating community and change: Student affairs within a social justice framework*, at the Iowa Student Personnel Association conference in Ames on October 11,

2006.

**Laura Rendón:** Presented as the plenary speaker at the AAC&U (Association of American Colleges and Universities) Diversity Conference in Philadelphia. The topic of the plenary was "Envisioning the Next Generation of Diversity Work: Core Agreements and Correspondence."

Received the Distinguished Service Award from the Association for the Study of Higher Education.

Appointed to chair the Latino Student Retention Institute for the American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education.

She was also featured in [insidehighered.com](http://insidehighered.com) (November 2, 2006) about her work on underserved student populations.

Rendon presented a policy paper, "Reconceptualizing Success for Underserved students" at the National Postsecondary Education Cooperative Symposium on Student Success in

*"Education is  
the ability to  
listen to almost  
anything  
without losing  
your temper."*  
-Robert Frost

# Alumni Updates

**Lynette Danley Land (Ph.D. 2003):** Received a Burton Foundation Grant titled "Mentors Matter: Equipping Black High School Girls for College Success" at the University of Utah.

**Kaori Burkhart (M.Ed. 2004):** Accepted a position as adjunct Japanese language instructor position at the University of West Florida.

**Shea Rentschler (M.Ed. 2003):** Shea married Marc Wolfe on July 22nd in Clinton, Iowa. They currently live and work in Chicago.

**Robert (Bob) Reason (Ph.D. 2001):** Received the outstanding young professional award as part of the ISU annual homecoming honors and awards ceremony.

**Lori Ressor (M.S. 1987):** Promoted to Associate Vice Provost of Student Success at the University of Kansas.

**John Shertzer (M.S. 2001), & Ellen Shertzer (M.S. 2000):** John is currently the Vice President for Leadership Education with the North American Interfraternity Conference. Ellen is working part-time for Indiana University as the Greek Alumni Coordinator. They would also like to announce the birth of their son, Jack Michael, on April 30, 2006.

**Mande Adams (M.Ed. 2004):** Mande is relocating to Los Angeles where she was recently appointed as the Greek Coordinator at UCLA.

# ELPS Conference in December!

The ELPS department is planning and hosting a conference centered on our student's research and class projects on December 11, 2006. We encourage all to attend. Presentations include campus environmental audit projects, student issues intervention projects, and research conducted by the students of ELPS. Stay tuned for more information and details to come. Contact Jessica Ranero or Nancy Evans for more information!

## Student Spotlight: Jonathan Compton!

**Tell us a little about yourself. Where are you from? Educational background. Last institution you worked at and position held.**

I grew up in Perry, Iowa. As I think back, my upbringing in Perry was instrumental in shaping my beliefs and career interests. Perry became very diverse in a very short time in the late 80s, and that caused racial issues to come to the surface. Hearing blatantly racist comments on a regular basis forced me to think through my own beliefs and values and eventually led me eventually to an interest in teaching English as a Second Language.

I moved to Tennessee to do my undergraduate degree at a small private college called Bryan College where I majored in English and graduated in 1998. After that I moved back to Iowa and came to Iowa State in 2000 to do my master's degree in English with a specialization in Teaching English as a Second Language. Between 2000 and 2004 I taught ESL and freshman composition at Iowa State and DMACC.

**Why did you decide to become a doctoral student in ELPS at ISU?**

I came to this program in a rather roundabout way. I applied to the master's program (even though I had a master's degree already) because my wife, Lily, was going to have about 2 years to finish her doctorate at the time. However, Dr. Laanan called me and encouraged me to apply for the doctoral program. I decided that it made more sense to do that, so I did. I had already known of the reputation of the ELPS program, and I have continued to be impressed with the excellent professors here. Every class and seminar I have taken here has been excellent.

**What are your plans for the future?**

I feel very strongly that I should be using my career to give back to others. I have a number of interests, but overall, I want to be doing something that makes a difference in the lives of students. I am interested in working in community college administration, but I would also like to have a job that is a little closer to students again. I am also interested in working with immigrants, international students, or international programs again. I have enjoyed learning about the issues affecting higher education and I am looking forward to going out and applying what I have learned.

**A fun fact about yourself.**

My wife, Lily, and I joke that we got married three times—once for legal reasons to begin her process of becoming a permanent resident, one ceremony in the US, and another ceremony in Malaysia where her family lives—we got married in 2002. We travel to Malaysia every year or two to visit her family there, and as a result, I have developed a taste for rather exotic foods. She and her friends love to take me out and try all kinds of strange foods to see my reaction.

**Tell us a bit about your involvement with the ASHE Graduate Student Policy Seminar.**

I have the great opportunity this year to attend the ASHE Graduate Student Policy Seminar. It is an honor to be accepted for it because only one student per institution is allowed to attend. It will be an opportunity to network with other graduate students nationwide who are doing similar research and to learn from nationally recognized scholars and experts. I think it will be very helpful for me as I begin working on my dissertation.



Jonathan Compton— 2nd Year Doctoral Student: Community College.

**“I had already known of the reputation of the ELPS program, and I have continued to be impressed with the excellent professors here. Every class and seminar I have taken here has been excellent.”**



# Happy Birthday!

Karen Herbert 11/3    Gale Howsare 11/10

Jill Wyckof 11/6    Vijay Kanagala 11/15

Ronni Stalker 11/9    Chelsey Bonnett 11/25

Bonnie Jan 11/10    Don't forget to make a wish!

*“Only the educated are free.”*

- Epictetus

## Faculty Highlight:

### Dr. Lori Patton, Higher Education

**Dr. Lori Patton is an assistant professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, Higher Education. We wanted to get to know her better so she is our highlighted faculty this month.**

Dr. Patton is a scholar devoted to deconstructing issues of race, multiculturalism, and diversity in higher education and student affairs. Much of her research introspectively examines issues of access, equity, and evidence of racial injustice in the academy. Currently, Dr. Patton is working on a grant funded project, which focuses on the developmental experiences of lesbian, gay, and bisexual students at historically Black colleges and university.

Dr. Patton earned her Ph.D. in Higher Education from Indiana University in 2004, M.A. in College Student Personnel at Bowling Green State University in 1999, and the B.S. in Speech Communication at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville in 1995. She earned a graduate certificate in African and African American Studies at Indiana State University in 2000.

**What is your favorite past-time activity?** I enjoy cooking when I actually have the time to do so. Also, I have recently found an increased interest in reality television. Celebrity Fit Club and Project Runway are two of my favorites.

**What was your most memorable undergraduate experience?** The day I was crowned Homecoming Queen!

**If you weren't a Higher Ed faculty member, what would you be doing?** Realistically, I would be a student affairs administrator or corporate event planner. Idealistically, I would be writing screenplays for motion pictures.

**Where are some of the places you like to travel?** I love taking cruises and usually go on one each summer to exotic and fun locations. I can't swim, but I love the ocean and whenever I can travel to a location and be near the ocean I love it.

**If you could meet anyone in history,** I would love to trace my ancestry and meet the people from whom I descended. It could tell me a lot about who I am. I would also love to meet Oprah Winfrey. Although she is still alive, I consider her to be a historical figure and role model for all people.



Dr. Lori Patton

Questions, Comments, Suggestions may be sent to:

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InCyder.php

### ***Congratulations to Jessica Ranero!***

*On October 27, 2006 Jessica traveled back to Virginia to receive the Congressional Hispanic Leadership Award from Congressman Tom Davis at George Mason University. She was nominated by her former students which makes us especially proud to have her here in Iowa.*



*Jessica Ranero*

## Student Recognition!

**Corey Rumann (HGED Doc Student):** Corey will be presenting at the 13th National Conference on Students in Transition in St. Louis, MO on November 4th, 2006. The title of his presentation is *The College Experience of a Returning Student Following a Military Deployment to a War Zone: A Process of Transition*.

Abstract: College students face many transition issues as they pursue their education. This is especially the case for students who are mobilized and deployed for military service while they are attending college. Based on a phenomenological research methodology, this qualitative study focused on one student's experience returning to college following a military deployment to a war zone. This poster session describes the methodology, analyses, and findings of the study.



*Corey Rumann*

**Anthony Jones (ED Admin Doc Student):** Anthony has been selected as a Barbara L. Jackson scholar by the University Council for Educational Administrators. He will attend and be recognized at the annual UCEA conference in San Antonio, TX in November. For more information on the Barbara L. Jackson Scholars program please visit <http://www.ucea.org/jacksonscholar/program.html>.



*Anthony Jones*