



Des Lee Collaborative Vision 2010-2011 report

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Prepared by Patricia Zahn, DLCV Director

"Education is the key to all of our progress and all of our hope." ~Des Lee

### **Introduction**

Last year's "What's Right with the Region!" award from FOCUS St. Louis for Fostering Regional Cooperation was a great honor for the Des Lee Collaborative Vision and a fitting tribute to the work of the DLCV since it began in 1996. With each day, new challenges arise in our community requiring collaboration and communication across both physical and philosophical boundaries. The DLCV, through the work of the associated endowed professors in partnership with institutions across the region, is breaking down those boundaries, creating new opportunities for growth and success in St. Louis and beyond.

The DLCV is a unique alliance of endowed professors who spend half of their time in the traditional academic work of teaching and research and devote the other half of their time to community outreach in some of the region's top educational, cultural and social service institutions. Considered a national model for collaboration with 35 current professorships, the DCLV links the university to more than 100 institutions and serves thousands of individuals each year, most of them children in urban K-12 classroom settings in underserved communities.

Created to bring the knowledge, expertise and resources of the university to civic, cultural, business, educational, and governmental organizations, the Des Lee Collaborative Vision has had an enormous impact in our region and beyond due to the breadth and diversity of work of each professor and partnership. Moreover, the Collaborative has greatly benefitted the affiliated universities. As intellectual as well as community leaders, the endowed professors in the Collaborative provide vision and leadership to enhance, support, and strengthen both the academic and civic domain.

### **Project Activities**

With a wealth of activities and programs undertaken by the endowed professors, the following report only touches on a few features of the work of the DLCV over the last year or so. They are presented in alphabetical order of the professorship.

## ***University of Missouri - Saint Louis***

### African/African American Studies

The E. Desmond Lee Africa World Documentary Film Festival (AWDFF) is now in its fourth year and has expanded its reach. This year the festival was held in Barbados, Cameroon and St. Louis. The Missouri History Museum served as the host venue for the festival in the U.S. Committed to the promotion of knowledge, life and culture of the people of Africa worldwide, the AWDFF annually receives over 300 documentary film submissions for the festival from all over the world and selects almost 60 to be included in the festival. In 2010, the short documentary submission titled “Music by Prudence” received an Academy Award as Best Short Documentary.

In 2010, **Niyi Coker**, E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor in African/African American Studies, created the E. Desmond Lee Playwriting Festival, whose mission is to encourage the creation of new dramatic literature that chronicles the African-American experience in St. Louis in particular and Missouri in general. He then directed “Pennies for the Boatman,” a feature film based on the winning play “The Seamstress of Saint Francis Street” by writer Mario Farwell. In addition to his work in theatre education, Niyi is currently developing a new documentary film on Ota Benga, a Congolese *Mbuti* pygmy who was part of an anthropology display at the 1904 World’s Fair in St. Louis and is known for being featured in a controversial human zoo exhibit at New York City's Bronx Zoo in 1906.

### Art Education

The E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor for Art Education, **Louis Lankford**, is devoted to enhancing teacher-student engagement within the fine arts. This past year, in partnership with three other endowed professors in the DLCV and with the MO Department of Conservation, Louis developed a series of three arts and ecology workshops for music and art educators in St. Louis area schools. One session was held in the fall, one in the winter, and one in the spring at both Laumeier Sculpture Park and Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center. Each workshop included an outdoor component and engaged almost a hundred teachers in experiencing art through study and reflection as well as visual and auditory experience in sculptures, paintings and music. Because of the success of this new initiative, Louis has plans to offer the workshops again this fall. In addition to this new endeavor, he continues to offer professional development opportunities to art educators in partnership with the Sheldon. He also works in partnership with the St. Louis Art Museum and has been very successful in placing interns in both museum studies and art education at this cultural institution. Endowment funds from the professorship support field trips for students at schools affiliated with the Des Lee Fine Arts Education Collaborative to attend museums and other cultural events as well.

### Botanical Studies

As Associate Chair of the UMSL Biology Department, **Elizabeth “Toby” Kellogg**, E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor in Botanical Studies, spends a considerable amount of time on administrative duties as well as teaching. This year, she was pleased to see several interesting older students enrolled in her introductory biology course including a member of the National Guard who wants to go to medical school, a former financial analyst, and a former golf course

superintendent who wants to go into conservation biology. In addition to her academic duties, she recently organized a two-day workshop on grass identification with colleagues from the Missouri Botanical Garden and Iowa State University. Toby's outreach includes her local partnership with the Missouri Botanical Garden, but also extends both nationally and internationally. She teaches part of the annual course on Plant Molecular Techniques at the Cold Spring Harbor Lab on Long Island, NY. Furthermore, she continues training graduate students from the Garden, including one woman from Venezuela, and currently collaborates with Garden colleagues to advise a student from Indonesia and two from Madagascar.



Toby Kellogg was featured in the July 8 edition of *UMSL Newsroom Online* as a teacher in UMSL's evolutionary biology program. The program helped rank UMSL in the top 10 in the nation for scholarly production among universities with less than 15 PhD programs.

### Character and Citizenship Education

**Marvin Berkowitz** currently serves as the Sanford N. McDonnell Endowed Professor in Character Education and **Wolfgang Althof** is the Teresa M. Fischer Professor for Citizenship Education. Working together, they co-direct the Center for Character and Citizenship (CCC) at UMSL, now celebrating its five-year anniversary. With its mission of engaging in research, education and advocacy that will foster the *development of character, democratic citizenship and civil society*, the CCC has grown since its establishment only five years ago from the collaboration of two endowed professors to a "Community of Scholars" that now includes 28 scholars from eight regional universities. In addition to housing the *Journal of Research in Character Education*, the only peer-reviewed scholarly journal focusing on character education, the Center offers four cornerstone programs focused on improving the educational experience of all children: Kids Voting Missouri; Missouri Youth Engaged in Local Government (MYLOGO); Youth Empowerment in Action (YEA)! ; and the Leadership Academy in Character Education (LACE).

LACE is a year-long mentored cohort experience which helps school principals, counselors, teachers and other school leaders deepen their understanding of character education, and shows them how to integrate character education content and methods into every aspect of a student's

school day. During the academy, participants learn how to involve not just the students, but teachers, parents and community members in the character-building process. The results have been promising. In 2011, of the 44 schools recognized as National Schools of Character by the national Character Education Partnership, 15 were from St. Louis and LACE graduates led 13 of them. Ridgewood Middle School's remarkable turnaround not only won such recognition, but also was featured in a full-page story in *USA Today*. Academic performance was up, disciplinary referrals down 70% and the student failure rate dropped to zero at Ridgewood. The rest of the country is noticing and starting to pay attention to the CCC's impact on school reform, character development and student achievement. The first full replication of LACE started in January 2010 in Wisconsin. Since that time, almost a hundred more educators have participated in LACE in St. Louis, and with an additional sixty in Wisconsin.

With these core programs, the CCC is involved in other projects. The Center offers regular presentations for the Community of Scholars. Recent programs have ranged from "Ethics in Health Care" to "Social Studies and Civic Education" to "Educating for World Citizens." Last November, CCC's Wolfgang Althof co-chaired a very successful Association for Moral Education (AME) conference in St. Louis. The conference attracted more than 200 scholars and practitioners from 24 countries. Wolfgang also serves on the AME board.

Over the past two years (2010 and 2011), the CCC has co-organized "The Connections Institute" in partnership with Springboard St. Louis. Springboard is the area's largest provider of in-school enrichment programs and coordinates professional development opportunities for K-8 teachers and school administrators in collaboration with DLCV professor Wendy Saul. The Connections Institute focuses on interdisciplinary approaches to the curriculum that enhance learning and foster creativity. Held in both 2010 and 2011, the Institute, "Integrating Character Education and the Arts," hosted over one hundred classroom teachers, art and music specialists, informal educators and teaching artists. The Connections Institute is the first known conference to focus on the interface of character education and arts education.

### Chinese Studies

**Hung Gay Fung**, Dr. Y. S. Tsiang Professor in Chinese Studies, partners with the Chinese community in St. Louis on a variety of activities related to China including Chinese New Year celebrations, seminars on China, and Chinese Culture Days at the St. Louis Botanical Garden. Each year he assures inclusion of Chinese music and dance in the International Performing Arts Series at the Touhill Performing Arts Center. Every other year, including this summer, Hung Gay organizes a China Study tour. A small group of travelers journey to China to visit companies and attend seminars and art galleries to learn more about Chinese culture and business. To further this exchange of knowledge, Hung Gay has worked with UMSL and the Chinese Academy of Social Science in Beijing to establish a scholar exchange program between faculty members to promote research and understanding. Hung Gay also serves on several Chinese academic journals as editor or co-editor and usually teaches a China business course that introduces students to Chinese business practices. Early this spring, Hung Gay gave a seminar on Chinese currency to business leaders and scholars from across the region at the World Trade Center in Clayton titled, "Renminbi: On the Road to Becoming an International Reserve Currency."

### Education for Children with Disabilities

The Variety Club of Greater St. Louis is the primary partner for E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor in Education for Children with Disabilities, **Patricia Kopetz**. However, Patricia is involved in a wealth of other projects and activities as well. She serves as director of the Center for Research and Study of Disability, Education, and Culture (CRSDEC) at UMSL, which has a new web presence and includes a “Resource Directory for St. Louis area students with Disabilities.” In February, Patricia organized a symposium attended by over 130 students, faculty, and staff in the UMSL College of Education to “Explore Issues in Disability” with five panelists representing local and national agencies and the university.

Throughout the last several months, Patricia Kopetz has been working with Variety's Program Director, Barb Kramer, to plan for the 2011 Variety Summer Adventure Camp program. Approximately 75 children attended the Camp each week for three weeks during the summer. CRSDEC supported the Camp with a university faculty specialist and a paraprofessional from the Center for Autism Education to assist with the Campers who have the Autism diagnosis; and supported a graduate student who will assist in collecting evaluation data for the Camp's culminating Evaluation Report 2011 (June - July, 2011).

As part of her community outreach activities, Patricia serves on the Variety St. Louis Board of Directors and chairs the Variety Parent Council. She also serves on the St. Louis Arc Board of Directors as Vice-Chair of its Program and Education Committee as well as the Advisory Board for the Miriam School Learning Center. Furthermore, Patricia was nominated to work on the Missouri Autism Guidelines Initiative committee, in addition to the statewide Missouri Special Education Advisory Panel as one of two representatives of higher education. She was recently featured on KSDK (Channel 5) for successful nomination of Giant Steps, a school that enrolls 70 K-8th grade children with autism, for the Ram's annual playground build. Not only did the Rams build the school a playground, but they also landscaped the grounds, and painted the interior walls of the school building to prepare it for opening day this fall.

### Education in Collaboration with Springboard

**Wendy Saul** is the Dr. Allen B. and Helen S. Shopmaker Endowed Professor for Education in Collaboration with Springboard. In this partnership, she works with the organization's artists and subject specialists as well as the Board of Directors to support curricular innovation and to foster staff development. In addition to collaboration with Springboard, Wendy is involved in the International Studies Resource Library which offers teaching and reference material on world cultures and global issues to educators and librarians throughout Missouri. The collection includes books, films, music, posters, curriculum units, traveling exhibitions and cultural artifact kits containing items representative of a country or culture and intended for hands-on use by students.

Teaching Science Literacy through journalism is one Wendy's other interests. She is currently involved in a grant project titled "Science Literacy through Science Journalism" (<http://www.scijourn.org>). The goal of the project is to explore if and how the teaching of science journalism using an apprenticeship model, relevant and reliable data sources and science-specific writing standards, improves high school students' science-related public literacy. Students in the project function as reporters in a newsroom— "pitching", researching, writing and publishing

original news stories. A second group of students, based at the St. Louis Science Center under the "Youth Exploring Science" program, serve as editors, providing feedback on the content and accepting articles for publication in online and in print venues. Professional development for teachers in the Normandy school district whose students participate in the project is also part of the grant.

Complementing these activities, Wendy serves on the board of directors for Critical Thinking International, Inc. providing professional development opportunities for educators around the world. As President of the International Book Bank and a member of the CODE board, she has been spearheading a project to translate books from sub-Saharan Africa into three languages—French, Kiswahili and English. Recognizing the extraordinary contributions she has made in science education, the Science Teachers of MO have selected Wendy to receive a lifetime achievement award in October at their annual conference.

### Experiential and Family Education

**Jim Wilson**, E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor in Experiential and Family Education in Cooperation with Forest Park Forever, continues to offer interesting and informative programs for St. Louis area residents and educators. Most recently, Jim took an Outdoor Education Leadership class on a field trip to the Ozarks with stops at Devil's Well, Stegall Mountain, Twin Pines Conservation Area, and a short float on the Current River. The group met with foresters and wildlife professionals, heard a presentation on the new elk relocation effort in the Ozarks, and spent time looking at traditional crafts and skills of the area. They considered the influence of the Scots-Irish heritage of the region and how that affects and shapes the local community and economy of today. Evenings were spent around a fire on a gravel bar of the Jacks Fork River talking about the people and the place and what that might mean to education in the St. Louis area.

In early June, Jim trained six UMSL students and recent graduates in experiential education techniques to be used with participants in the Herbert Hoover Boys and Girls Club summer day camp. They are spending three weeks with about sixty participants from Herbert Hoover which will include enriching experiences at Forest Park, the St. Louis Zoo, the Old Chain of Rocks Bridge, Bellefontaine Conservation Area, the confluence area of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, and other related sites.

Teacher education has also been an ongoing focus of Jim's efforts. Lately, he has collaborated with the Missouri Department of Conservation to offer a course in Big River Ecology. This summer, a small group of eight teachers spent the day in the confluence area of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers looking at natural features, floods and floodplain issues, barge commerce and lock and dam activity, commercial fishing, bottomland hardwood forests, wetland conservation and management, and local community involvement with the Big Rivers.

Another group of 35 teachers are gathering in July for the 11th year of the Teachers Academy in Forest Park. Over eight and a half days, teachers will become acquainted with Forest Park and learn skills to use the park with their students. This interdisciplinary program involves participation from most of the cultural institutions active in the park and will focus on aquatic, forest, and grassland habitats and the unique experience that Forest Park provides in St. Louis.

As a complement to the work that Jim is undertaking in the St. Louis area, he also has extended his outreach internationally. Early this summer he presented a keynote address and consulted with colleagues involved with the International Geographical Union at an environmental interpretation conference in Taining, China. He also did a two hour presentation on environmental interpretation and experiential education for a graduate geography class at Beijing Normal University while he was there. In August, Jim plans to visit the confluence area of the Rhine and Mosel Rivers in Germany to develop contact and background information for a comparative course in confluence ecology based on that region and the St. Louis area river confluence.

### Greek Studies

This has been a very exciting year for **Michael Cosmopoulos**, the Hellenic Government-Karakas Family Foundation Professor in Greek Studies. Every summer, he leads a team on an archaeological dig in the area of Messenia, Greece for the Pylos-Iklaina Archaeological Project. Situated at a strategic location overlooking the Ionian Sea, Iklaina appears to have been an important district capital of the Late Bronze Age (ca. 1600-1100 BC). This is the period also known as “Mycenaean” and famous for such mythical sagas as the Trojan War. Last summer, Michael’s team discovered a fragment of a tablet that is now considered the earliest known state record in Europe. In an interview for the UMSL news, Michael noted, “This is a rare case where archeology meets ancient text and Greek myth.” The find reminds us that there is still a lot to be discovered about the ancient world. Michael returned to Greece this summer and continues excavation of the site looking forward to new discoveries along the way.



Community engagement is a core element of Michael Cosmopoulos’ work in Greek Studies at UMSL. He runs The Nicholas and Theodora Matsakis Hellenic Culture Center which includes a gallery of Greek art, a media center, and an extensive library of Greek-related books, periodicals, magazines and newspapers for community use. The Center also collects and houses archives of the region’s Greek-American society. This fall, Michael will host three community programs. In September, Dr. Tony Kocols will talk about “The Battle of Crete” followed in October by Professor Philip Betancourt, Institute for Aegean Prehistory, who will give a presentation on “The Excavation of the Hagios Charalambos Cave.” To complete the fall series, distinguished educator and author Reverend Dr. Stanley Harakas will give the Nakis Memorial Lecture in November titled, “Hellenism and Orthodox Christianity: A Complex Relationship.”

## Irish Studies

**Eamonn Wall**, Smurfit-Stone Corporation Professor in Irish Studies, continues to benefit students, faculty and the St. Louis community by organizing a variety of lectures and performances throughout the year, bringing the best and brightest scholars, writers, and performers to our community. Programs offered on weekdays regularly attract 40-75 attendees. Hundreds more attend an Irish concert in the Touhill each year as part of the Performing Arts Series. This fall, Irish musicians Martin Hayes and Dennis Cahill will perform, followed next year by Black 47. Irish Studies will support an Irish Music class in the UMSL Music Department this year. Furthermore, Eamonn is exploring a long term project to develop a web-based, interactive archive of Irish American poetry and is presently recruiting an advisory board for the project.

In partnership with the Regional Arts Council, Eamonn has been involved in Project Bud (Con Christeson), an initiative to bring Irish visual artists to St. Louis to work in inner-city communities and to send St. Louis artists to Dublin. The first St. Louis artists go to Dublin this summer and the Dublin artists are due to visit St. Louis in late 2011 or 2012. As part of his community service, Eamonn serves as a board member of the United Nations Association of St. Louis—an organization that promotes the work of the UN in the St. Louis area.

## Japanese Studies

In the fall of 2010, **Laura Miller**, the Eiichi Shibusawa-Seigo Arai Professor in Japanese Studies, joined the Des Lee Collaborative Vision. Laura began her community outreach efforts immediately partnering with the Japanese-American Society in St. Louis and the Japan America Student Association at UMSL. She hosted five engaging programs throughout the year ranging from questions of multi-culturalism in Japan to an exploration of *Godzilla* and post-war Japan, attracting hundreds of students, faculty and community members. Laura also served as an expert resource in providing accurate information following the March 2011 tsunami in Japan.

This fall, Laura will be launching a book “offering a concise snapshot of Japanese society” titled *Manners and Mischief*. In addition to special programs for students, she will be hosting a community program called “Uncivil Society: Right Wing Activism in Japan and the Politics of Futility” presented by Socio-cultural Anthropologist Dr. Nathaniel Smith in September.

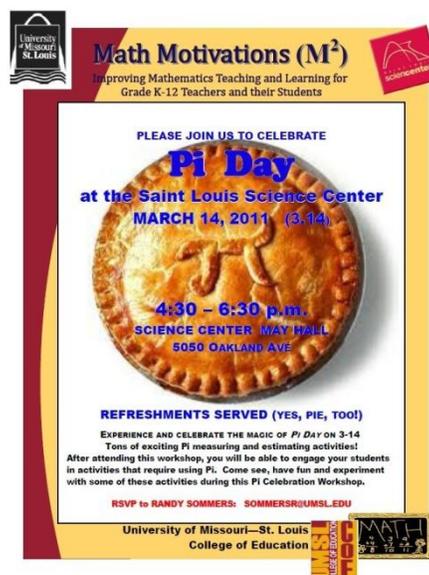
## Life-Long Learning in the Sciences

Though the professorship is currently unfilled, the partnership activities are continuing through a unique collaboration involving Carol Valenta, Senior Vice President and Associate Museum Director at the St. Louis Science Center, and Randy Sommers, Orthwein Postdoctoral Fellow, with Carl Hoagland, Emerson Electric Endowed Professor of Technology and Learning. This team works together to guide the Math and Science Education Central (MSEC), a new addition to the E. Desmond Lee Technology and Learning Center (see Technology & Learning report below). Randy Sommers serves as the MSEC Coordinator and a guest employee at the Science Center. Carol and Randy have offices at both UMSL and the SLSC. The team works together with the MSEC Steering Committee and other colleagues to build numerous formal programmatic, academic and cultural connections between the Science Center and UMSL.

The MSEC complements the college's efforts to graduate as many highly-qualified educators as possible who have the knowledge, skills, and awareness of the best practices necessary for successful science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) teaching and learning in public and private schools. The partnership also strengthens the K-12 programming at the Science Center and expands outreach to area students and teachers in an effort to integrate math and science with reading, writing, and other subject areas. A variety of new programs are now being offered in collaboration with other UMSL professors which enhances the partnership. A series of mathematics professional development opportunities for St. Louis area educators kicked off in December. A "Math MAP Test Boot Camp" focused on helping teachers prepare their students for the unique challenges of standardized testing. A "Pi day program, 3-14-11" gave teachers a chance to learn more about this fascinating mathematical concept. "Math, Science and Me" provided teaching tools and concepts for early childhood educators. This summer, a math clinic was offered to area elementary students needing math assistance and provided in-depth assessment and targeted tutoring sessions. In addition, 60 St. Louis area math educators attended a weeklong "Math Inquiry Institute" designed to provide inquiry-based content exploration and pedagogical growth experiences for participants. With these new and ongoing MSEC initiatives, UMSL and the Science Center have developed a strong complementary partnership, and the future of the collaboration has great potential.



Above: Math Inquiry Institute at MSEC auditorium  
 Right: Flyer for Pi Day at the St. Louis Science Center



### Modern & Contemporary Art History

This professorship is a unique partnership between UMSL and Laumeier Sculpture Park in southwest St. Louis County. The sculpture park, under the direction of **Marilu Knode**, Aronson Endowed Professor in Modern & Contemporary Art History and new Executive Director of Laumeier, is embarking on a strategic plan and expanding its outreach and engagement efforts in the broader community. An active participant in the DLCV, Marilu engages the collaborative spirit in all of her activities and is helping her board and partners understand that Laumeier's goals are broad and high and that the only way to accomplish them is with the assistance and expertise of colleagues around the region.

In an effort to partner with other DLCV endowed professors, Marilu invited Carmon Colangelo, E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship for Collaboration at Washington University, to join

Laumeier's Board as head of the Collections / Exhibitions / Education sub-committee. She has also engaged Bruce Lindsey, E. Desmond Lee Professor for Community Collaboration at Washington University, as an advisor to Laumeier's summer 2012 project, *Camp Out: Finding Home in an Unstable World*. Bruce and Marilu met with Kim Yasuda, one of the artists in *Camp Out* this spring. Bruce has agreed to host Kim at Washington University in the fall, and have his students help her research and produce the community-based collaborative piece that will be outside in the Park. Furthermore, after meeting Jim Wilson, E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor in Experiential and Family Education, at the DLCV retreat in April, Marilu and Jim have been talking about ways in which they might collaborate to make the nature of the "cultural landscape" a more active ingredient in the public appreciation of Laumeier.

Since Marilu's tenure, Laumeier Sculpture Park has become a partner organization in the E. Desmond Lee Fine Arts Education Collaborative. This year, Laumeier was part of the professional development project with other DLCV professors and partnered with Powder Valley and 122 schools in St. Louis city to conduct teacher training and site visits. Next steps involve hosting students from underserved school districts at Laumeier to learn about art, nature and science. Laumeier is also working with MADCO (Modern American Dance Company) as well as Craft Alliance to create new programming at the Park.

As an extension of her professional outreach activities, Marilu is in the process of organizing a "Sculpture conference" by calling together a group of colleagues actively involved in promoting sculpture in the region (e.g. Kemper Museum, St. Louis Art Museum, and City Garden) to network and share ideas for community partnerships. She also currently serves on three public art commissions in the St. Louis community—the Airport, the Grand Center redevelopment committee, and the Clayton Century Commission.

### Museum Studies & Community History

Preparing students with training and experience that will place them on the leading edge of the museum professions is the central focus for **Jay Rounds**, E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor in Museum Studies & Community History. The Museum Studies program at UMSL is highly competitive and attracts international attention. Graduates have taken leadership positions in museums as close as St. Louis and as far away as Scotland and India. Every year a new cohort of 12 students begins a two-year program of study and experiential learning. Students are placed in top cultural institutions in the St. Louis area where they spend about 20 hours each week working side-by-side with museum professionals. The community partnerships with area museums generate a symbiotic exchange of knowledge, ideas and resources. Current partners include the Missouri History Museum, the St. Louis Science Center, and the St. Louis Art Museum to name a few.

### Music Education

**Bob Nordman**, E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor in Music Education, extends the DLCV outreach efforts as chair of the E. Desmond Lee Fine Arts Education Collaborative, a group of representatives from at least 20 cultural fine art agencies working with teachers, administrators, university faculty, professional musicians, visual artists, thespians and dancers. The Fine Arts Education Collaborative's primary objective is to support fine arts teachers in the delivery and promotion of arts curricula by providing high quality experiences in the arts. This program is

unusual because it does not charge students or schools in financially distressed districts. The Collaborative provides services for 122 schools from 16 districts reaching predominately underserved populations in effort to engage and expose them to the excitement of the fine arts.

Each year, approximately 7,500 students from Collaborative schools attend in-school programs offered by our partner organizations. Another 11,000 Collaborative students attend classical concerts, opera, dance performances, jazz concerts, and tour art museums. Representatives from all participating schools and cultural partners meet monthly to share information, ideas and opportunities for local students. The Collaborative also sponsors three big events annually giving students the rare opportunity to perform in Powell Symphony Hall and the Touhill Performing Arts Center, two of St. Louis' premiere cultural venues. The Music Showcase is held each year in early December at Powell Symphony Hall. On a revolving basis, schools participating in the Collaborative send vocal, band and orchestral groups to present a concert. The Des Lee High School Music Festival and the Des Lee Middle School Music Festival are held at the Touhill Performing Arts Center every February. Altogether, almost a thousand students from participating districts spend the day at the Touhill working with guest conductors as they learn and practice musical selections. The day culminates with outstanding performances by a Festival Choir, Orchestra, and Concert Band attended by hundreds of family members and friends. It is an impressive and entertaining experience that is not to be missed. This year the Music Showcase at Powell Symphony Hall will be on November 30. The High School Music Festival is scheduled for February 14, 2012 and the Middle School Festival will be February 16, 2012.

Through the years, the Fine Arts Education Collaborative has supported education and arts experiences for students in a limited number of resource-challenged districts. Each year, requests come in from other resource-challenged schools to participate, but they cannot be accommodated due to the limited funds available to extend the collaborative activities. However, Bob Nordman has been partnering with DLCV professors Marilu Knode, Louis Lankford, and Jim Wilson to offer other professional development opportunities for more area arts educators (see Art Education report).

### Oncology Nursing

**Margaret Barton-Burke** is the Mary Ann Lee Endowed Professor in Oncology Nursing in partnership with the Siteman Cancer Center. She spends a couple of days each week working out of her office at Siteman, with the remaining time at UMSL and out in the community. Margaret's research focus has been on the health needs of survivors of breast cancer, and in particular, treatment for African-American women who have experienced breast cancer.

Margaret oversees the Black Women Breast Cancer Survivor Project at the UMSL College of Nursing. As a part of the project, the "Knowledge is Power" conference on black women and breast cancer has taken place for the last two years. Last October, Sista Strut, a breast cancer walk specifically for African-American women, was added to the project now reaching hundreds of community members. Ultimately, research from the project focused on understanding the experiences of African-American women who have experienced cancer will be used to help nurses and other health care professionals provide culturally-competent care to the growing diverse patient population. As a complement to work within the African-American community, the

professorship was a sponsor for the African-American Nursing History 2011 Conference on health disparities last February.

Margaret developed and hosted the inaugural “Mary Ann Lee Endowed Lecture in Oncology Nursing” held at Barnes Jewish Hospital/Siteman Cancer Center last fall. Nationally recognized nurse, professor and research scientist Betty Ferrel gave an edifying presentation on “Pain and Fatigue Symptoms Impacting Cancer Patients’ Quality of Life: Results of a Recent Study” for healthcare professionals, educators, students, and interested community members. There are plans to make the lecture an annual event.

Since beginning her tenure at the university, Margaret has discovered that “both the students and staff at UMSL receive scattered and disparate information about breast cancer” even though she and her team are in the community all the time teaching women the facts, dispelling myths, and answering questions about breast cancer. “We realized that we are not taking care of our own! Therefore, we are planning an UMSL Breast Cancer Awareness Day to be held in mid- October,” she stated. The event will include mammography screenings, speakers, and an activity and information booth set up in the Millennium Center at UMSL.

In addition to her work at UMSL and in the local community, Margaret is currently serving a two-year board term with the Oncology Nursing Society, a national a professional organization of over 35,000 registered nurses and other healthcare providers dedicated to excellence in patient care, education, research, and administration in oncology nursing.

### Plant Science

E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor in Plant Science, **Sam Wang**, holds a joint appointment as a researcher and member of the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center and as a faculty member in UMSL’s Biology Department. His research, focused on signal transduction processes that regulate plant growth, development, and stress responses, is extremely successful. At Danforth, his team is applying knowledge gained from their research studies to manipulating crop plants for improving stress tolerance and productivity. In addition to research, Sam participates in a variety of service activities. This year he organized and led the biology department seminar series which included more than twenty presentations ranging from soybeans to snapping turtles and brain functions to genome sequencing. On the international level, he is involved in organizing Gordon Research Conferences which provide an international forum for the presentation and discussion of frontier research in the biological, chemical, and physical sciences, and their related technologies ([www.grc.org/](http://www.grc.org/)).

### Community Collaboration and Public Policy

E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor in Community Collaboration and Public Policy, **Todd Swanstrom**, has spent much of the last few years focused on community development. One of the nation’s leading experts in his field, Todd co-authored a report analyzing the coalition behind the 2010 victory of the transit tax in St. Louis County which is available online at: <http://pprc.umsl.edu/data/PropALessons.pdf>. The report was presented at a community forum held on the first anniversary of Proposition A that was attended by about 70 people. Todd also co-authored a report on how localities can respond to the foreclosure crisis. The report was published

by the National League of Cities and can be found at:  
[http://pprc.umsl.edu/data/RIRR\\_ForeclosuresResilience2010.pdf](http://pprc.umsl.edu/data/RIRR_ForeclosuresResilience2010.pdf).

As part of the Des Lee Creating Whole Communities Initiative that Todd developed, he worked with FOCUS St. Louis to co-sponsor a regional conference March 3-4 titled "Housing: Building a New Foundation for Economic Prosperity." Recently, Todd hired a fulltime staff person who will be organizing a St. Louis Community Development Network designed to increase the capacity of community development nonprofits and give them a place at the table when housing and community development policy is made. The Des Lee Creating Whole Communities project promotes comprehensive and sustainable community planning in the Saint Louis Metropolitan Area. The project is designed to facilitate collaboration in the St. Louis region to plan across silos, coordinating housing with transportation, energy, and schools.

### Science Education

E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor in Science Education I, **Bill Kyle**, and E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professors in Science Education II, **Jim Shymansky**, are engaged in a broad array of projects focused on Science Education in the St. Louis area and beyond. Bill is finishing up a three year project in partnership with Lincoln University to provide professional development opportunities to science teachers in the St. Louis Public Schools and surrounding districts. He has been engaged in projects to enhance the science and technology skills of youth and community members in high poverty communities in St. Louis and sub-Saharan Africa. Working with his graduate students, he also directs the Science, Technology & Culture program with participating schools in both St. Louis and Africa.

In these projects, Bill is able to extend his reach far beyond St. Louis. He is considerably involved in research related to sustainability issues and practices in developing countries. He is also a key leader in Project Sustain, a collaborative venture to bring about social change. This is an international initiative aimed at building capacity among science and technology educators by generating knowledge and research methodologies that explore and promote development of and access to socially responsible science and technology education.

On the other hand, Jim Shymansky has focused much of his community engagement activities and research over the last few years on education in rural communities closer to home. This year he is wrapping up a grant program which developed Science Cooperatives in Missouri and Iowa (Science Co-op), focusing on the elementary/middle school science programs of underserved rural and small school districts dispersed across two Midwestern states and 40,000 square miles. Many schools in this area had one or maybe two teachers teaching at the same grade level without resident content specialists and with limited financial resources, which required the teachers to rely on regional education and colleges/universities for piecemeal professional development and implementation support of any new curriculum and instruction directives. The geographic and staffing characteristics of these districts and schools minimized collegial networking and leadership in science education. By implementing Science Co-op, success would be based on good engineering in designing solutions that addressed local problems, priorities, constraints, available resources, and isolation. Summer workshops were held at multiple regional locations. Ongoing professional

development support came in the form of cohorts at local schools and districts as well as integration of technology to share best practices and model lesson integration.

The project took a new form with the “Just ASK” multi-topic community of practice. “It totally changed my entire philosophy and outlook and the way I teach because of my participation in the program!” reported 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher Rachella Dravis. A website was developed to share ideas and resources and live, online lesson demonstrations were scheduled each week. Throughout the pilot phase, the website and Community of Practice sessions were only accessible to participating schools; however, there are plans to expand the site this summer for open participation from teachers across the nation. Pilot school participants as well as “teachers at-large” will now be able to access “Just ASK” teaching notes and lesson videos and contribute their own ideas and lessons to the website.

In relation to this project, Jim has recently given presentations including “Taking Professional Development to School: Using Distance Technologies to Link Teachers and Share Practices” and “From Paper to Clicks: The Promises and Challenges of On-line Instructional Materials” at technology-based learning conferences. He also contributed to “How much professional development is needed to affect positive gains in K-6 student achievement?” presented at the Annual International 2011 National Association for Research in Science Teaching conference.

Jim is currently working on a new project with Randy Sommers, Orthwein Postdoctoral Fellow and Math and Science Education Central Coordinator (see Life-Long Learning in the Sciences report), collaborating with two Normandy High School teachers to develop and evaluate student self-assessment tools in Science in the hopes of increasing student science achievement and promoting interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) occupations and endeavors. The research for this project will begin in the fall of 2011, and it will hopefully lead to the application for a grant from the National Science Foundation in January of 2012.

### Technology and Learning

Emerson Electric Company Endowed Professor **Carl Hoagland** continues to serve as the Director of the E. Desmond Lee Technology & Learning Center (TLC) at UMSL. Last year, the TLC celebrated the addition of a high tech facility called Math and Science Education Central (MSEC). Several of the DLCV endowed professors in the College of Education donated thousands of dollars and hundreds of hours of work to advance the vision and mission of MSEC. MSEC is now a centerpiece of UMSL’s College of Education, Missouri’s largest educator preparation program. It also serves as the embodiment of the ongoing collaboration between the Saint Louis Science Center and the College of Education at UMSL.



St. Louis Area Teachers attend Professional Development program in the MSEC auditorium

Since 2006, the TLC has hosted the Digital Media Festival to encourage the creative use of digital media within the primary and secondary classroom setting to meet learning objectives. The festival is designed to be an event that showcases and rewards strong DV or interactive media examples in education. It provides students and teachers in the St. Louis region with an authentic outlet for their work, transcending chalkboards, allowing for an opportunity to collaborate with others. Videos from this year's winners can be seen at <http://coexchange.com/?p=5644>.

### Tutorial Education

As the E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor in Tutorial Education, **Judith Cochran** serves as the director of the E. Desmond Lee Regional Institute for Tutorial Education (RITE). Working in partnership with the St. Louis Public School District, RITE manages a cadre of tutors in these schools. Pre- and post- test data from more than 340 of the students who were tutored last year using RITE's Blueprint for Reading Success Program is currently being analyzed. RITE also has a partnership with AmeriCorps St. Louis and has provided training for AmeriCorps volunteers in literacy intervention for the last ten years. Each year, these AmeriCorps members work with at least 350 low reading K-3 children in 9 St. Louis Public School District schools. According to Judith, evaluation results show that all children who were tutored last year were brought up to grade level in one year (or less). AmeriCorps is making a film about their tutoring success to be used as part of training materials for agencies throughout the St. Louis area. In May, Judith Cochran received the AmeriCorps- St. Louis "Community Champion Award" in recognition of her commitment to the program.

Extending the focus on tutorial education, the RITE staff members also work on "Conscious Choice," a program which aims to increase graduation rates and reduce the number of pregnant girls enrolled at five largest St. Louis Public High Schools—Vashon , Roosevelt, Sumner, Northwest

and Beaumont. RITE is also a sponsor for the Girls Leadership Camp held at UMSL each summer, encouraging girls to develop leadership skills and prepare for college.

Not only is Judith Cochran a leader in Tutorial Education, but she is also an expert on the Middle East. In early February, during the uprisings in Egypt, Judith participated on a timely panel of faculty experts in an informal discussion of the Egyptian revolution and its probable impact on U.S. foreign policy, politics in the region, and, perhaps most importantly, on Egyptian society. She also presented a paper on education in the Middle East at the “East Meets West Conference” at Virginia Military Institute and submitted her “Democracy in the Middle East: The Impact of Education and Religion” manuscript for publication. Furthermore, Judith will be presenting her work on restructuring higher education at Oxford University in England at the end of July.

### Urban Education

**Lynn Beckwith, Jr.** continues to serve as the E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor in Urban Education in Connection with St. Louis Public Schools. This past year, Lynn completed his third and final year as chairman of the St. Louis Public Schools Foundation. He works directly with district administrators as well as school principals and teachers. To help prepare new leaders for urban schools, he has developed a “cohort” program for teachers from St. Louis Public Schools to attain their Education Specialist Degree in educational administration. Thus far, 150 people have participated in the program. A new cohort of 20 teachers will start on their degrees at UMSL this fall. Additionally, Lynn serves as a resource person for the chief human resource officer for the St. Louis Public Schools when interviewing prospective principals. He is also in the final phases as principal investigator for GEAR Up-St. Louis, a \$22,000,000 federally funded grant designed to increase the high school graduation rates of a cohort of 3,700 students from 21 high schools in the metro area.

Expanding his reach beyond the work with St. Louis Public Schools, Lynn is involved in a wealth of other projects. He just finished his first year as chair of the Special Administrative Board for the Riverview Gardens School District and his second year as president of the Board of Trustees of the St. Louis County Library District. He serves as the moderator for the nine member superintendents’ panel that was a part of the Superintendents’ Forum sponsored by the Metro St. Louis alliance of Black School Educators, and is on the Kansas/Missouri Superintendents’ Forum advisory Board. He also chairs the 2-1-1 Committee of the United Way of Metropolitan St. Louis. As part of his collaborative efforts, Lynn continues to make himself available as a resource and mentor for area superintendents and others involved in public education in the region.

### Women Leaders and Entrepreneurs in International Business

**Janet Y. Murray**, the E. Desmond Lee Professor for Developing Women Leaders and Entrepreneurs in International Business and Professor of Marketing at UMSL, is serving a two-year term as the President of Women in the Academy of International Business (WAIB). WAIB was established in November 2001 within the Academy of International Business (AIB). It is a women’s networking group with 1,600 members worldwide. Its goals are to encourage networking among women faculty, administrators and PhD students in international business studies, to offer one-on-one mentoring by linking female junior faculty and doctoral students with senior women faculty, and to encourage research on gender-related issues in international business. In June 2011, she

will co-sponsor the WAIB networking reception and co-chair two gender-related panels at the 2011 AIB Annual Meeting in Nagoya, Japan.

In addition to her leadership in WAIB, Janet has been very productive in her research and professional activities. She co-sponsored the UMSL Distinguished Speakers' Series in March 2011 with Susan L. Lang, Senior Vice President and Chief Supply Chain Officer at Express Scripts, as the speaker. Janet won the Best Paper Award in the Global and Cross-Cultural Marketing Issues Track at the American Marketing Association Summer Educators' Conference held in Boston in August 2010. Recently, she has published three papers in top marketing and international business journals and presented papers at the American Marketing Association and the Academy of International Business conferences. In addition to serving in various committees at UMSL, Janet is an officer/member of 9 editorial, advisory and executive boards.

### Youth Crime & Violence

**Finn Esbensen** is the E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor in Youth Crime & Violence and currently serves as Chair of the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice at UMSL. He makes regular presentations at professional conferences locally, nationally and internationally and is a prolific writer. His book *Youth Violence: Sex and Race Differences in Offending, Victimization, and Gang Membership* with Temple University Press (co-authors Dana Peterson, Terrance J. Taylor, and Adrienne Freng) was published just last year.

In April, Finn organized the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Violence Prevention Conference in St. Louis. It was attended by more than 200 people, most of them professionals working with youth in various capacities, i.e., teachers, counselors, law enforcement agents, volunteers and professionals from non-profits such as Girl Scouts, family court, etc. Sessions at the conference this year covered topics such as bullying, mentoring, and delinquency. Jody Miller, Associate Dean in the School of Criminal Justice at Rutgers University, gave a riveting and rather disturbing presentation about youth violence in our region titled, "Race, Gender, Inequality, and Violence against Girls in St. Louis." The conference wrapped up with a presentation by Finn called, "Promising Results from the National Evaluation of Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.)," a program for which Finn has served as principal investigator in two evaluations since 2001. Each year the conference attracts hundreds of people who learn more about the issues of youth crime and violence in our area and discover opportunities to make positive changes in the region.

In the international field, Finn is involved in longitudinal research on Youth Groups and Gangs in Europe. He is currently finalizing plans for the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Eurogang Program of Research, an international group of researchers and policy makers interested in understanding youth violence from an international perspective. Approximately 50 representatives from 12 different nations will meet in Denmark this September for three days to discuss policies and programs to effectively respond to youth gangs and violence.

### Zoological Studies

The E. Desmond Lee Professorship in Zoological Studies, held by **Patricia Parker**, continues to conduct collaborative research in the Galapagos Islands in partnership with the Saint Louis Zoo and members of the UMSL Department of Biology. During the 2010-2011 academic year, this

research group published 12 articles in the peer-reviewed literature and 7 book chapters. Some of these received international attention for their important insights into threats facing the unique birds of the Galapagos Islands. Patricia is a Senior Scientist at the Saint Louis Zoo, and serves on their Field Research for Conservation and Field Conservation funding committees. Their joint work in Galapagos has involved ten members of the Zoo veterinary staff and more than a dozen UMSL graduate students, and routinely involves undergraduates from UMSL and other universities, as well as members of the St. Louis community who participate as volunteer helpers. This promotes the spread of science literacy as well as the visibility of the special expertise residing in St. Louis to make contributions on a global scale. This year's work was funded by The Peregrine Fund and the Saint Louis Zoo, and a major grant is planned for submission to the National Science Foundation in late 2011. Patricia serves as Chair of the Department of Biology at UMSL, is an Associate Editor of the journal *Conservation Genetics*, and convener of the Life Sciences Subcommittee of the University of Missouri Research Board.

In addition to her other activities, Patricia Parker is also working with Joseph Carroll, Curators' Professor of English at UMSL, to develop a conference on evolution in biology, the social sciences and humanities. The conference is scheduled for April with the introduction of a new evolutionary studies program at UMSL to precede it in the fall.

### ***Washington University:***

#### Collaboration in the Arts

**Carmon Colangelo**, E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship for Collaboration in the Arts, joined the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts at Washington University as its first dean in July, 2006. As dean, Carmon oversees the School's four academic units — the College of Art, College of Architecture, Graduate School of Art and Graduate School of Architecture & Urban Design — as well as the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum, home to one of the nation's finest university collections of modern art. Carmon is also a widely exhibited artist known for large mixed-media prints that combine digital and traditional processes ([http://samfoxschool.wustl.edu/portfolios/faculty/carmon\\_colangelo](http://samfoxschool.wustl.edu/portfolios/faculty/carmon_colangelo)).

Community engagement permeates Carmon's work. For instance, the school hosts "The Alberti Program-Architecture for Young People," a problem-solving studio workshop about architecture, community, and the environment for fourth- through ninth-grade students from St. Louis schools. In addition to the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum at Washington University, Carmon is also responsible for The Des Lee Gallery on Washington Avenue. This space provides students and faculty a formal gallery space for presenting exhibitions. In addition to hosting student and faculty exhibitions, the gallery has earned a national reputation for showing work by local and internationally known contemporary artists.

Carmon works closely with a variety of artists and art institutions in the St. Louis area. He has partnered with Laumeier Sculpture Park on exhibitions and currently serves on the Laumeier board as head of the Collections / Exhibitions / Education sub-committee.

## Community Collaboration

**Bruce Lindsey** is now in his third year as the E. Desmond Lee Professor for Community Collaboration at Washington University. This past year he participated in an ad hoc committee with the dean of law and the dean of social work to examine the role of Washington University as an anchor institution in the city and region. This work frames his broader vocation as professor and Dean with a focus on regional involvement and furthering relationships and partnerships. As a board member of the Partnership for Downtown St. Louis, Bruce participates in helping to improve the downtown core, which is vital to the regional economy and life of the city. He has also been elected to the board of the Missouri Gateway Chapter of the United States Green Building Council where he can serve in an advocacy role for sustainable environmental practices.

For the past two years Bruce has served as one of the six-person governance group for City Arch River Foundation 2015—the international design competition for the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial Park and its connections to the city and East St. Louis. He will continue to work in the future as a member of a two-person advisory board to ensure the vision of the winning competition entry is fulfilled through the process of design and construction, concluding with the dedication of the new facilities in October of 2015. Inspired by the name of his professorship, Bruce takes his role in community collaboration to heart in all of his interactions within the university and in the St. Louis region.

## Racial and Ethnic Diversity

Health and health disparities are central themes in the work of **Sarah Gehlert**, E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship for Racial and Ethnic Diversity. In the past year, Sarah has been appointed as a Professor in the Department of Surgery, and Co-Program Leader of the Prevention and Control Program of the Alvin J. Siteman Cancer Center. She continues to make presentations in national venues. In May of 2011, she spoke in the Master of Science in Clinical Investigation (MSCI) Career Development Seminar series at the Washington University School of Medicine on the topic, “Translation in Health Disparities Research.” That same month, she was a presenter in the Health Equity Symposium, sponsored by the Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research, Boston, MA, on the topic. “A Transdisciplinary Approach to Addressing Health Disparities” In June, she gave an address at the Rural Health Journalism Workshop at the annual meeting of the Association of Healthcare Journalists in St. Louis on the topic, “What drives rural health issues? Looking for the answers.” Sarah was recently featured in the Washington University news for her work with a grant-funded project called “Elimination of Cancer Disparities” which “seeks to identify reasons behind the breast cancer disparity and to help close gaps in care that leave African-American women in North St. Louis particularly vulnerable” (<http://news.wustl.edu/news/Pages/22482.aspx>).

## ***Saint Louis University***

### Collaborative Regional Education

The theme of leadership has been a primary focus for **Jim Gilsinan**, E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship in Collaborative Regional Education at St. Louis University, over the last few years. Partnering with the FOCUS St. Louis Youth Leadership project, Jim has developed an “action

research” component for the group titled "What's Right with our Schools." This past year, 160 students representing 24 area high schools participated in the program. Students conducted research interviews and shared their stories and videos on the web through a social networking NING site. Later this year, the student research will be developed into a "What's Right with our Schools" report for distribution to educational stakeholders in the region.

In addition to his work with teenagers and young adults, Jim has been collaborating with a criminal justice and service organizations including the St. Louis Area Police Chiefs Association, SLU’s College of Education and Public Service, and the U.S. Attorney’s Office, Eastern MO District to offer “Law Enforcement Leadership” workshops. This past spring, the Leadership series included such topics as:

- When to Stop Counseling and Start Writing
- Law Enforcement Fund Raising
- Social Networking
- Mentoring—Is it all that it promises to be?

Attended by hundreds of police managers in the region, these workshops have been a great success and will be the foundation for a broader Civic Leadership Institute in the future.

### **Associations**

Endowed professors of the DLCV serve as directors for a variety of centers, programs and institutions including the:

- Center for Character and Citizenship at the University of Missouri- St. Louis
- Center for Excellence in Urban Education at the University of Missouri- St. Louis
- Center for Research and Study of Disability, Education, and Culture at the University of Missouri- St. Louis
- E. Desmond Lee Africa World Documentary Film Festival
- E. Desmond Lee Fine Arts Education Collaborative at the University of Missouri-St. Louis
- E. Desmond Lee Technology & Learning Center and the Math, Science Education Center at the University of Missouri- St. Louis
- Institute for Mathematics and Science Education and Learning Technologies at the University of Missouri- St. Louis (formerly Regional Institute for Science Education)
- International Business Institute at the University of Missouri- St. Louis
- Laumeier Sculpture Park
- Missouri International Studies Resource Library at the University of Missouri- St. Louis

- The Nicholas and Theodora Matsakis Hellenic Culture Center at the University of Missouri- St. Louis
- Regional Institute of Tutorial Education at the University of Missouri- St. Louis
- Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts at Washington University

### **Vacant Professorships**

- Mary Ann Lee Endowed Professorship in **Community College Teaching, Administration and Leadership Academy**
- E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship in **Contemporary Art**
- E. Desmond and Mary Ann Lee Endowed Professorship for **Entrepreneurship at Washington University**
- William R. Orthwein, Jr. Endowed Professorship in **Life-Long Learning in the Sciences**
  - Partnership activities are going strong, even though the faculty position remains vacant (see Lifelong Learning in the Sciences report above). In the fourth year (2012/13) of this partnership iteration, UMSL plans to conduct a collaborative search with the Science Center to fill the vacant position. Thanks to the work of the current collaborators working with the MSEC, a new faculty member will have a firm foundation for the further expansion of this extremely effective partnership.
- Hubert C. Moog Endowed Professorship of **Nursing**

### **Successes and Challenges**

On November 1, 2010, Patricia Zahn began her work as the new director of the Des Lee Collaborative Vision. Patricia brought to this position over a decade of experience working directly with scholars and community organizations throughout the state of Missouri in developing collaborations and partnerships. Des's motto, "Education is the key to all of our hope and all of our progress!" resonated with her when she read the position description, and she was very excited about focusing her outreach and collaboration efforts for the benefit of the citizens in the St. Louis region. Before she even began her work officially, she made it her mission to establish relationships with all of the professors and learn about their work and outreach efforts. She has made a point to attend as many of the programs and activities of the DLCV professors as she has been able, and is working with several of them on special projects.

On April 25<sup>th</sup>, 26 of the 30 DLCV professors from SLU, Washington University and UMSL gathered at the St. Louis Zoo for the first official meeting of the Collaborative in over three years. For some of the professors, it was the first time they had gathered with the others. There was a sense of uncertainty as to how the meeting would take shape, because it was the first time the group had gathered for a meeting without the leadership of Des Lee. However, the inspiration of Des within

the group was quite present. The guiding topic for the meeting was to reaffirm a commitment to the Des Lee Collaborative Vision and for each professor to take ownership in the DLCV's new model. Active participation, communication, and collaboration were the key themes of the day and the meeting objectives were to connect by:

- Building Relationships
- Establishing a Shared Vision
- Developing a Sense of Identity & Shared Network.

As a result of the meeting, several professors have begun new discussions about opportunities for working together and broadening their networks of resources. From here, we will consider ways to facilitate better communication, strengthen partnerships, and address issues of uncertainty.



DLCV Professors, April 25, 2011 meeting at St. Louis Zoo

One way to facilitate regular exchange of information has been through the creation of the Des Lee Collaborative Vision Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/DesLeeCollaborativeVision>, launched in the beginning of May. The mission of the page is to enhance the Des Lee Collaborative Vision communication, collaboration and public engagement. This page is a place for professors to promote events and share information about the DLCV and the work they are doing to accomplish this vision. There is a link to the many DLCV partner institutions in St. Louis to promote their activities as well. In the coming months, we will be posting video and pictures to keep the site interactive. We will also be developing content to post on the DLCV website that will be upgraded next year.

Ongoing exchange of information and collection of useful data to assess the impact of the DLCV as a whole remains a challenge. It is difficult to measure the impact of collaboration in a comprehensive manner. However, a small group of DLCV professors will be gathering to

determine the best ways to address assessment without creating redundant reporting mechanisms. They will also determine what types of information will be most meaningful to their institutions and partner organizations as they consider ways to evaluate activities.

In an effort to facilitate more effective lines of communication throughout the DLCV, Patricia is making a point to meet with each endowed professor regularly and has begun establishing relationships with representatives from the partner organizations. Experience shows that it is important to have multiple points of contact to support true partnerships. We have faced challenges in the past when one individual (either the endowed professor or the organization's liaison) has left or changed positions, and there was no one else involved in the partnership. Therefore, the DLCV professors are introducing Patricia to their liaisons in the partner organizations, and she plans to build stronger relationships with the leaders in those networks.

## **Awards**

Through the years, the DLCV and the individual endowed professors in the Collaborative have received much recognition. Here is a list of some recent honors. Though most of these awards were mentioned in the previous section of this report, they are worth repeating:

- **The Des Lee Collaborative Vision** received the “What’s Right with the Region! - 2010” award from FOCUS St. Louis for Fostering Regional Cooperation.
- **Center for Character and Education program, Kids Voting Missouri, with Sandy Diamond**, director of the program at the UMSL, received the “2010 Spirit of Justice Award” from the St. Louis Bar Foundation.
- **Marvin Berkowitz** received the “2010 Good Work Award” from the Association for Moral Education for his work with the Leadership Academy for Character Education at UMSL.
- **Marvin Berkowitz** was honored with the “2011 Thomas Jefferson Award” from the University of Missouri System. The award recognizes a member of the university community who best exemplifies the principles and ideals of Thomas Jefferson, who rise above excellence and demonstrate clear distinction in service to the university and humankind.
- **Judith Cochran** received the AmeriCorps- St. Louis “2011 Community Champion Award” in appreciation for the support and training of AmeriCorps volunteers in literacy intervention over the last ten years.
- **Finn Esbensen** received the UMSL Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Research and Creativity.
- **Robert Nordman**, the E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor of Music Education, was inducted into the Missouri Music Educators Association Hall of Fame for his leadership and the positive influence he has had on music education over a 50-year career.

## Conclusion

Each day we endeavor to meet Des Lee's challenge to, "Remove the walls that limit collaboration and replace them with *intellectual highways of cooperation*" through the Des Lee Collaborative Vision. Support for this Vision is evident in the work of the individual professors both in collaboration with one another and in their community outreach. As our mission states, "We want to link the knowledge, expertise and resources of academic institutions in St. Louis to the community's civic, cultural, business, educational and governmental entities to provide the vision and leadership that will enhance, support and strengthen the region for the benefit of all its citizens. Special emphasis is placed on increasing opportunities for underserved populations."

Creating a network of endowed professorships with community partners began as a mere question about how to strengthen ties between the university and the community. This vision was supported and included a matching funds initiative through the Missouri State Legislature and civic-minded philanthropists.

By 1996, several of these philanthropists funded endowed professorships including the Hellenic Government- Karakas Family Foundation professorship in Greek Studies; the Herbert C. Moog Endowed Professorship in Nursing; the Teresa M. Fischer Endowed Professor for Citizenship Education; and the Dr. Y. S. Tiang professorship in Chinese Studies. Des Lee endowed several more professorships as part of partnerships with many of the area's top cultural institutions including the Missouri Botanical Garden, the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra with Opera Theater of Saint Louis, Saint Louis Zoo, Missouri Historical Society and the Saint Louis Art Museum. Lee also asked his good friend, William R. Orthwein, Jr., to endow a professorship to partner with the Saint Louis Science Center.

Along with Orthwein, others were enticed to join the effort: the Jefferson Smurfit Corporation endowed a professorship in Irish Studies; Sanford McDonnell of the former McDonnell Douglas Corporation endowed a professorship in character education; and Adam and Judith Aronson, distinguished arts patrons in St. Louis, invested in a professorship in modern and contemporary art history. In 1999, the Eiichi Shibusawa-Seigo Arai Professorship in Japanese Studies was endowed. The following year, Emerson Electric Company endowed a Professor in Technology and Learning. In 2002, Dr. Allen B. and Helen S. Shopmaker endowed a Professorship for Education in Collaboration with Springboard to Learning.

All of these endowed professorships became part of the Collaborative Vision, which has grown significantly since 1996. Through the Collaborative, we continue to progress in finding ways to help our partners make connections to each other and to the resources they need to be successful and make a difference in their community.



## **Des Lee Collaborative Vision**

### **Endowed Professorships**

#### **University of Missouri - St. Louis**

- E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor in African/African American Studies
- E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor in Art Education
- E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship in Botanical Studies
- Sanford N. McDonnell Endowed Professorship of Character Education
- Dr. Y. S. Tsiang Professorship in Chinese Studies
- Teresa M. Fischer Professorship for Citizenship Education
- Mary Ann Lee Endowed Professorship in Community College Teaching, Administration and Leadership Academy
- E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship in Contemporary Art
- E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship in Education for Children with Disabilities in Connection with the Variety Club of Greater St. Louis
- Dr. Allen B. and Helen S. Shopmaker Endowed Professorship for Education in Collaboration with Springboard to Learning
- E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor in Experiential and Family Education in Cooperation with Forest Park Forever
- The Hellenic Government-Karakas Family Foundation Professorship in Greek Studies
- The Smurfit-Stone Corporation Endowed Professorship in Irish Studies
- The Eiichi Shibusawa-Seigo Arai Professorship in Japanese Studies
- William R. Orthwein, Jr. Endowed Professorship in Life-Long Learning in the Sciences
- Aronson Endowed Professorship in Modern & Contemporary Art History
- E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship in Museum Studies & Community History
- E. Desmond Lee & Family Fund Endowed Professorship in Music Education
- Hubert C. Moog Endowed Professorship in Nursing
- Mary Ann Lee Endowed Professorship in Oncology Nursing

- E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship in Plant Science in Connection with the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center
- E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship in Community Collaboration and Public Policy
- E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship in Science Education I
- E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship in Science Education II
- Emerson Electric Company Endowed Professorship in Technology and Learning
- E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship in Tutorial Education
- E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship in Urban Education in conjunction with St. Louis Public Schools
- E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship for Developing Women Leaders and Entrepreneurs in International Business
- E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship in Youth Crime & Violence
- E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship in Zoological Studies

### **Washington University**

- E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship for Collaboration in the Arts
- E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship for Community Collaboration
- E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship for Racial and Ethnic Diversity
- E. Desmond and Mary Ann Lee Endowed Professorship for Entrepreneurship

### **Saint Louis University**

- E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship in Collaborative Regional Education

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