

ACC supports mediation service

By DON FILARSKI
STAFF WRITER

ACC student Shawn Dempsey has been involved this past year in a new community program, the Sunrise Mediation Service, which works to resolve conflicts between parties that might otherwise end up in small claims court.

People filing a case in small claims court can expect to pay \$22 - \$37. A small claim must be made in a dollar amount even in a case such as a property dispute.

Dempsey stated that people don't often understand why mediation is better than going to court. She explained that in court a judge acts often like an arbitrator where both sides of an argument are heard and a judgement is made which often only favors one party.

In mediation, however, both parties reach an agreement

that they both can live with. Situations that mediation service will tackle are numerous and include business or contract disputes, property damage, or difficulties between children or teens.

The SMS has been in operation since April 1, 1993, and has handled 32 cases. Dempsey, who is considering a career in law, has functioned in several cases and has found the experience very worthwhile.

Toni Jurnu is the current coordinator/director and holds a B.S. degree in psychology with experience in probate court.

Her job is intake - to discover if a dispute is appropriate for mediation. If it is, she goes about seeing if both parties will agree to a mediation meeting on neutral ground, usually church, county or school buildings.

Last of all she assigns two volunteer mediators. If parties come to an agreement, a written document is signed by the par-

ties involved.

The agency will even perform a follow up after three months to see how things are going in regard to the agreement.

Charles Wiesen, ACC Executive Director of the Center for Economic & Human Resource Development serves as president of the SMS board of directors.

He described the SMS as a place which provides people another opportunity to solve their problems in a civil manner, instead of going directly to the court which is often overloaded with litigation. Wiesen believes that a community is stronger when it solves its own problems, and the mediation center provides the community with this opportunity.

For information pick up a brochure on one of ACC's information stands entitled "Conflict? The Solution Is In Your Hands!" or call the SMS at 1-800-552-2625.



Paul Aaron, a Senior Research Associate from Brandeis University in Massachusetts meets with Service-Learning Coordinator Julie Smigelski and student Caroline Lechel. Photo by Linda Simpson

Center involved in survey

By DON FILARSKI
STAFF WRITER

The Service-Learning Center at Alpena Community College recently had a visitor from Brandeis University in Massachusetts. Paul Aaron, a Senior Research Associate, made an on-site visit to our campus because ACC is participating in a nationwide Service-Learning survey. ACC is the only community college in Michigan involved in the survey.

During his visit, Aaron

met with President Dr. Donald Newport, CEHRD Director Chuck Wiesen, Nursing Instructor Corky Williams, Instructor Dave Eger, Tencare Activities Director Thelma Stevens, and several students involved in the Service-Learning program.

Aaron commented on the high level of community enthusiasm toward the projects at ACC.

Aaron asked student Caroline Lechel what made the Service-Learning project different from simply volunteering.

Lechel, who tutors at Besser Elementary School said, "I share [ACC instructor] Charles Rosebush's enthusiasm about math with my students at Besser, I feel I have a lot to offer them and they deserve the extra help."

Service-Learning Coordinator Julie Smigelski has applied for a grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service in Washington, D.C. If the application is successful, there will be a considerable expansion of the program in the Fall of 1994.

ACC staff are honored

By MELODY SHARP
STAFF WRITER

While driving down Johnson Street one might notice that each month a new name mysteriously appears on the ACC billboard announcing "The Lumberjack of the Month."

The Lumberjack of the Month award started in November, 1989, as a recognition program for staff members who have performed in an extraordinary fashion at the college in

the carrying out of their job responsibilities. President Dr. Don Newport stated, "Those are people that walk further . . . and faster than others."

All staff are eligible for recognition and the first recipient was Lyle Beck, director of data processing. Since that time 49 awards have been given.

Recipients receive a letter of commendation presented by Newport, various donated items from area merchants, a designated parking space anywhere on campus they desire and a tree

planted in their honor in the spring.

Selection is made by Newport from nominations provided by any staff member who feels the nominee has performed an outstanding service to the college and its students.

Recipients for 1993-94 were Don Witt, Kathy Momrick, Sonya Titis, Linda Suneson, Rob Rouse, Sandy Eastway, Corky Williams, Karen Eller, Chuck Wiesen, Curt Davis, Ken Hubbard, Mike Hood, Dot Gonia, and John Singer.

Phi Theta Kappa trips out

By SHAWN DEMPSEY
NEWS EDITOR

Phi Theta Kappa elected its officers for the 1994-95 school year on April 19.

The officers are: Donna Richards, president; Julie Belanger, vice-president; Jennifer Weinkauf, secretary; Pat Cook, public relation secretary, and Julie Litwinski, treasurer. They will take office on May 31.

Some of the incoming officers recently had the opportunity to learn more about PTK. On April 22, current President Shawn Dempsey and

Public Relations Secretary Craig Brown, along with Weinkauf, Cook, and Richards headed to Clair, Michigan, for the annual PTK regional convention.

"The trip was very stimulating - a true learning experience," says Dempsey. "I would advise anyone interested in PTK to take the plunge."

Mid-Michigan Community College hosted the conference.

The three day trip ended with an awards ceremony where PTK Advisor Wes Law won the Horizon Award for new advisors. Law has been PTK advisor for two years.

By DENINE KONWINSKI
COPY EDITOR

ACC's Dr. Donald Newport was among 18 community college presidents out of 1,200 in the U.S. recently recognized by the American Association of Community Colleges for serving a minimum of 25 years as president. The honor was granted at the National Meeting of Community Colleges in Washington, D.C.

"It's more of an acknowledgment of survival than anything," Newport stated, try-

ing to down play the award. Despite the average "life" of 9.4 years for a president of a community college, Newport has been with ACC for 6, and sees himself staying on.

Newport sites some factors for the length of time individuals serve as president of an institution such as a community college.

For one, he says, the role has changed. When he first became president, the emphasis was building up the credibility of community colleges. Today

the emphasis lies on finance and other outside factors, including the politics within the field.

Another large factor is simply pressure. Newport stated, "Some individuals have trouble maintaining a balance between those pressures and the time needed to put into the job."

But Newport has learned to change with the times, and maintain a balance.

"I enjoy seeing the institution being responsive . . . and seeing the community and the individual grow - everything else is second place," he said.



Max Lindsay teases Mike Hood upon his retirement celebration at the recent Recognition dinner and program. Photo by Linda Simpson

Cal State lawsuit results in a model gender equity program

(NSNS) - A landmark settlement will put the California State University (CSU) system at the forefront of offering equal opportunities in sports for women students by the end of the century.

The settlement, announced as a decision in the case of California NOW v. The California State University, mandates that all 20 CSU schools give opportunities to women students proportional to their representation in the student body by the 1998-99 school year.

The settlement also requires proportionality in offering athletic scholarships and in budgets.

Women's Sports Foundation President Nancy Hogshhead, 1984 Olympic triple gold medalist in swimming, hailed the settlement as a recognition that the time has come for equitable treatment of women athletes.

"The CSU system has taken a giant step by committing itself to truly equitable sports programs, not just programs that pay lip service to gender equity," said Hogshhead. "By agreeing to this settlement, the CSU administration has avoided a court fight that could divide its athletic departments and instead focuses the institution's energies on moving forward to an equitable future. We applaud their decision."

The suit alleged that CSU had failed to make progress toward eliminating disparities between women and men in intercollegiate sports as required by the State Education Code.

Women's Sports Foundation Executive Director Donna Lopiano noted that the settlement will put pressure on the University of California to move toward gender equity as well.

"Since the CSU system has agreed to this strict standard of gender equity under the California Education Code, the University of California system will have to take a close look at their own programs," Lopiano said. "If all CSU and UC schools

create truly equitable programs, California will be the example from which the rest of the country can learn."

Correction:

The following PTK inductees were incorrectly named in the April 13 issue of *The Polemic*: Patrick Cook was mistakenly billed as Patricia Cook, Jennifer Weinkauf was mistakenly billed as Wendy Weinkauf, and David Murray was omitted.

Concrete Technology

- Exciting hands-on learning environment
- Exceptional employment opportunities
- National representation provides current curriculum
- Well equipped facilities, expert staff



ENROLL TODAY!

Two Year Program Offers AAS Degree

Applications accepted year round . . . new classes begin each fall

Contact:
Robert Eller, Instructor
356-9021 Ext. 220

Glen's

Open 24 hours

Servicing Alpena in two locations