



June-August 2003

FACT Targeted Grants Support Diverse Projects

FACT awards targeted grants over the course of the year for diverse work, including Area of Distinction (AOD) teams, research grants, support for conferences, collaborative opportunities and publications.

“Targeted funds help us reach further into our communities, and improve our collaborations and scholarship,” said Cheryl Booth, FACT co-director. “By maintaining flexibility in disbursing funds we can accommodate issues that occur outside of our annual grant cycle. We are also pleased to be able to support a variety of works and approaches as we strive to meet the needs of Michigan families.”

Targeted projects in 2002-03 include:

Day In The Life: Dia de Justicia?

Francisco Villarruel,* University Outreach and Engagement

This video presentation will support a groundbreaking report published by MSU faculty last summer, exposing severe and disturbing disparities in the treatment of Latino youth in the criminal justice system.

Ingham County Child Maltreatment Project and Partnership

Gary Anderson,* School of Social Work

In partnership with several organizations in Ingham County, this project aims to assist community agencies in understanding and addressing child maltreatment and consequent out-of-home placements.

Jump, Jive and Learn

Norann Chadwick, Fife Lake Elementary School; James Harper,* MSU Extension, Kalkaska County; Charles Schwarz, Forest Area Middle School; Lorraine Weatherspoon,* MSU Community Nutrition and Dietetics

By evaluating the effectiveness of the Jump, Jive and Learn Healthy Lifestyles program in middle schools in Kalkaska County, this project aims to provide a healthy choices practice and partnership model that may be adopted by other communities across Michigan.



Spartus gives a thumbs-up to MSU engineering students Scott Watson, Joe Cornillaud, Nick Abbruzzese, and Dan Washenko, who designed this new three-wheel cycle for Chris Casey, a young man with cerebral palsy. The cycle is a project from the bi-annual MSU Design Day program, which attracts more than 1,000 people from across the state and where students work with manufacturers to design and build projects that address real-world issues. See story on page 2.

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* indicates project leader

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Engineering Design Day Students Tackle Real-World Issues



On April 25, 2003, 400 MSU mechanical engineering honors students and middle and high school students from across the state participated in the bi-annual Design Day at the MSU Union, a program that gives students engineering experience and helps them share their skills with the community. Developed and coordinated by mechanical engineering professor Brian Thompson, it is the College of Engineering's biggest event of the semester, attracting more than 1,000 people.

"The kids benefit from real-world experience," says Thompson, "it provides industrial and academic mentors for them and gives them the transition from the 'ivory towers' into the real world." The community also benefits from companies

introducing new products designed by MSU students, which have the potential to create new jobs or improve quality of life for Michigan residents.

MSU engineering students work with businesses and manufacturers to conceptualize, design and build products that address real-world issues. They also interact with middle and high school students from different districts of the state, building projects using their basic knowledge of science and serving as mentors to the younger students about college opportunities in engineering. Students receive certificates for their creations, and Thompson says they develop a sense of pride in their work.

This year's projects included a three-wheel cycle built for Chris Casey, a 21-year-old man with a cerebral palsy-like condition, a motorized vehicle that can climb stairs, and a more-efficient electric motor for use in fans and other appliances. In past years, the students have built mobility vehicles for other impaired persons, including Andrew Jackson who lost his legs in a crib fire.

Involving the entire mechanical engineering program at MSU, Design Day

gives faculty an opportunity to address current business and workplace issues in the classroom—the process helps everyone learn. Students in Thompson's senior-level capstone design course are sent to companies, given a budget and are expected to reach a solution to a pressing problem, developing products for people who need them. "The companies in turn get fresh ideas and out-of-the-box thinking on their product line, saving them money," said Dr. Thompson.

Design Day is viewed positively by students, faculty, and the community. The program is built on experiential learning and Thompson says that once students get the opportunity to help someone in the community, they never forget it. "The program allows students to be more in tune with reality than they would be doing paper studies," says Thompson, "they have to incorporate creativity, analytical thinking, knowledge of economics, and program planning to solve a problem for someone who needs it."

"Design Day helps engineers become good citizens and helps the role of engineering in the community manifest itself."

FACT Awards MSU Extension Challenge Grants

In an effort to increase the number of MSU Extension staff involved with FACT projects, FACT is supporting a challenge grant process.

"It is important that FACT broaden its reach across the state, but sometimes distance can make things cumbersome," said Cheryl Booth, FACT co-director, "So we encouraged the MSU Extension network to focus on a local problem and see how we could assist with making connections with MSU departments to research it. The results are very exciting."

FACT will assess the outcome of the projects to determine if the process

will be used in future years. Of the seven proposals submitted, the following were funded:

We Can Do It! Kids Taking Charge of Diabetes

Cindy Brock,* MSUE Presque Isle County; Kathy Majewski, MSUE CYF Family & Consumer Sciences; Amy Saxe, MSUE CYF Family & Consumer Sciences; Lorraine Weatherspoon,* MSU Department of Food Science & Human Nutrition

Located in three Northeast Michigan counties, this project will research the effectiveness of the "We Can Do It!"

program in helping children and adolescents manage Type 2 diabetes, with the support of their families and communities.

Health Realization

Joyce Belonga,* MSUE Mackinac County; Beverly McBride, Ste. Tribe of Chippewa Indians; Denise Saint Arnault, MSU College of Nursing

This project will research whether an approach called Health Realization can bring out powerful changes in individuals, families and communities by starting internally with the health of the helper and then rippling out to affect change in those with whom they work.

FACT Welcomes New Advisory Board Members

FACT is honored to welcome five new members to its Advisory Board, which is co-chaired by Deborah Strong, executive director of the Michigan Children's Trust Fund, and Richard Paulsen, associate professor in Parks, Recreation and Tourism Resources. The new members bring a wealth of experience from diverse sectors—philanthropy, government, nonprofits, and the university—that will be invaluable in guiding FACT as it supports university-community collaborations.

“FACT represents a vital interface for MSU with communities, facilitating effective partnerships for the benefit of families and children,” said new member Lucille Fallon, director of Corporate and Foundation Relations at MSU, “I look forward to assisting FACT in its efforts to bring the resources of MSU to the community.”



Lucille D. Fallon

Lucille D. Fallon is Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations at Michigan State University. She joined MSU in 1988 as the Director of Development for the College of Education. She has been in her present role since 1991. Prior to coming to MSU, she served as Director of Development for the Michigan Division of the American Cancer Society for eleven years.

She is a graduate of Newton College in Newton, Massachusetts and the Fund Raising Management Program at Adelphi University in New York. Her past community involvement has included service on the Boards of the Impression 5 Museum and CASA of Ingham County. She has also served as a volunteer for Capitol Area Interfaith Respite (CAIR).



Katherine K. Fitzgerald

Katherine K. Fitzgerald is a program analyst at the W. K. Kellogg Foundation of Battle Creek, Michigan. In this role, Fitzgerald evaluates proposals, monitors existing and potential projects, serves as a liaison with internal and external partners, and assists in the development and maintenance of strategies and funding priorities for the Battle Creek programming area.

Prior to joining the Foundation, Fitzgerald held several positions with the United Way of Greater Battle Creek, including interim president and chief professional officer and vice president. During her time at United Way, Fitzgerald provided leadership to the redesign of United Way's fund distribution system and to “Common Commitment,” a community-wide visioning process that resulted in five-year goals for the greater Battle Creek community. She currently sits on the Social Impact Committee of the Michigan Women's Foundation.



Lynne Martinez

Lynne Martinez is Michigan's Children's Ombudsman and served as the Executive Director of the Capital Area Youth Alliance and the Commission for Lansing Schools Success. As a State Representative from 1994 to 1999, she was a member of the House Appropriations Committee and the subcommittees on K-12 Education and the Family Independence Agency. In addition, Martinez was vice-chair of the subcommittees for the Department of Community Health and General Government and served as a member and convener of the Bi-partisan Children's Caucus.

Before joining the Michigan Legislature, Martinez was an Ingham County Commissioner for nine years where she served on every committee of the board. She was a member of both the Michigan Association of Counties Board of Directors and the National Association of Counties Criminal Justice Committee.



Douglas M. Paterson

Douglas M. Paterson is the Director of the Bureau of Children and Family Programs within the Michigan Department of Community Health and is responsible for four divisions including Women, Infants and Children (WIC), Children's Special Health Care Services, Family and Community Health, and Mental Health Services to Children. Paterson also serves on the State Interagency Coordinating Council for Early On, The Children's Trust Fund Board of Directors, and the Board of Directors of the Michigan SIDS Alliance. Paterson's prior experience includes work as a policy analyst within Michigan's Medicaid program helping to negotiate the first contracts between Medicaid and managed care organizations in 1974. He also served as director of Michigan's WIC program from 1979 through 1985.



Sandra Springer

Sandra Springer is the MSU Extension West Central Representative for MSU Extended Education. Her duties include promoting off-site, on-line, certificate programs and linking campus to fourteen West Central counties. For five years, she was the 4-H Youth Development Agent in Kent County.

Her background includes twenty years as an Ameritech employee in the areas of supervision, training, sales and marketing. She has a B.A. in Communications and Masters of Management from Aquinas College.

Announcements

Journal Article

An article entitled "Families and Communities Together (FACT) Coalition: Evolution of a University Wide Engagement Model" will be published in the upcoming 2003 special issue of the *Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement* (JHEOE). Written by FACT co-directors and staff, the article examines issues related to effective community engagement, such as addressing faculty rewards and incentives, maintaining long-term institutional commitment and developing meaningful roles for communities that sustain their involvement. When published, copies of the article will be available at the FACT office. To view previous issues and for more information about JHEOE, visit www.uga.edu/jheoe.

Upcoming Presentation

FACT team members will deliver a paper presentation at the third annual Outreach Scholarship Conference, to be held in Madison, Wisconsin on October 12-14, 2003. The presentation, "A Coalition Model for Leveraging Resources and Sustaining Partnerships in Tough Economic Times," will explore how universities can develop and sustain resources for engagement efforts during times of economic uncertainty. The session will focus on creative approaches and successful strategies for supporting engagement, like forging alliances with government and nonprofits sectors and pooling funding streams. For more information about the conference, visit www1.uwex.edu/outreach/.

Handbook on Fathers

HANDBOOK OF FATHER INVOLVEMENT: MULTIDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES

(Lawrence Erlbaum Associates Publishers, 2002)

This book offers methodological and theoretical perspectives on the study of fathering and its role in both traditional and non-traditional settings. Hiram E. Fitzgerald, MSU assistant provost for University Outreach and Engagement, has co-authored a chapter titled "Methodological, Measurement, and Design Issues in Studying Fathers: An Interdisciplinary Perspective," with Robert H. Bradley, Helen Raikes, and Lori A. Roggman.

The chapter focuses primarily on the importance of

defining, recruiting and studying fathers. For research to be effective, the authors argue that fathers have to be studied on their own terms, beyond the maternal context. The authors emphasize the need to define fathers beyond their biological role, as well as include cross-cultural perspectives and the roles a father plays in a child's life. The authors say that greater attention to methodological issues can help translate research into more effective social programs and policy which in turn can inform future research on father involvement.



Targeted Grants

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KEYS: A System-Wide Approach to Building Capacity for School Improvement

Barbara Markle,* MSU Department of Educational Administration, Teacher Education; Robert Harris, Education Alliance of Michigan; Marcia Leone, MSU College of Education, K-12 Outreach; Marilyn Schief, Education Alliance of Michigan; Gary Sykes,* MSU Department of Educational Administration, Teacher Education

KEYS is a national initiative, regionally organized, to create capacity within individual schools and among a set of external assistors (“coaches”) to help schools improve their operations and outcomes.

Mentoring in an Urban Setting: Clinical Practice To Improve Prospective Teachers’ Cultural Understanding

Stephen Koziol, MSU Department of Teacher Education; Chris Wheeler,* MSU Department of Teacher Education

This project challenges stereotypes about urban teaching. MSU teacher education students will mentor elementary students at Wexford Community School in Lansing.

Michigan Family Impact Seminars

Esther Onaga,* MSU Institute for Children, Youth, and Families

These seminars provide objective, non-partisan information to help legislators analyze the consequences to families of issues, policies and programs. Each seminar is accompanied by a briefing report distributed to approximately 500 individuals and agencies.

Network Analysis: Beginning a Regional Home Buyer Education Program Availability Assessment

Doug Woodward,* MSU Extension, CYF Family and Consumer Sciences

Responding to the need to increase the numbers of low income and minority families that own a home, this project will develop a collaborative system of housing educators in Michigan’s East Central Region.

Hours of Opportunity: Positive Youth Development During Out-Of-School Time— MegaConference, March, 2003

Cynthia B. Mark,* MSU Extension, CYF 4-H Youth Development

More than 185 staff from nine states and 25 youth serving organizations attended this conference. They learned best programming practices to ensure positive youth development and school success, ways to build community capacity, current research and evaluation techniques and methods for influencing public policy and advocacy.

Promotion of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) in Michigan: Building a Statewide Network of Access to Income Supports, Financial Education, and Lost Cost Savings Accounts for Low and Moderate Income Families Through a Learning Demonstration Model

Susan Cocciarelli,* MSU Extension, MSU Center for Urban Affairs; College of Human Ecology; Office of the Dean, Detroit College of Law; MSU Tax Clinic

Six Michigan communities will offer a financial education model with a long range plan to offer this opportunity statewide.

State of the State Survey (SOSS)

Amy Baumer, MSU Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (IPPSR); Beth Olson, MSU Department of Food Science & Human Nutrition; Carol Weissert, MSU Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (IPPSR)

FACT continues to raise awareness about the health consequences of obesity by once again supporting questions in the next State of the State Survey.

Work and Family

Ellen Ernst Kossek,* MSU School of Labor and Industrial Relations

This award provides support of a collaborative publication effort focusing on work and family issues.

* indicates project leader

www.fact.msu.edu

Michigan State University
Families And Communities Together Coalition

Meeting the needs of Michigan families
through research, Extension and outreach

FACT is sponsored by:

The Office of the Provost
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Events

Please contact us about events related to children, youth, families and communities at 432-9207 or fact@msu.edu. Also, check our calendar at www.fact.msu.edu.

June 26

Facts, Fads, and Fantasies of Economic Development in the Knowledge Economy Summer Institute 2003

Sponsored by the Michigan Partnership for Economic Development Assistance Center for Urban Affairs, Michigan State University
8:00am-4:00pm
Kellogg Center, East Lansing, MI
Advocates for the economic revitalization of distressed communities will need the skills to help such communities release all the creative potential within their borders to be competitive in a rapidly changing economic environment. Summer Institute 2003 will examine the facts, the fads, and the fantasies of the knowledge economy and economic development as it is emerging in the new millennium.

Registration deadline is June 13, 2003
For more information, visit Center for Urban Affairs Community and Economic Development Program.

July 21-25

Michigan Coalition To Reduce Underage Drinking Teen Leadership Team Teen Advocate Training

Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
Training geared towards teenagers to help formulate and put plans to eliminate underage drinking into action.

For more information, call 1-800-968-4968 or visit kend@preventionnetwork.org.

July 27-29

Multi-State 2003 AFCS Conference

Marriott North Hotel, Indianapolis, IN
This tri-state conference, "Shaping the Lives of Families and Professionals", will be sponsored by the Family and Consumer Science Associations from Indiana, Ohio and Michigan.

For more information and registration forms, contact your state FCS organization or visit <http://www.oafcs.org>.

July 28-29 or

July 31-August 1

Parenting IS Prevention Trainings

July 28-29, Marquette, MI

July 31-August 1, Lansing, MI

The Parenting IS Prevention Training is designed to increase the capacity of individuals, community groups, and organizations to involve parents as key partners in alcohol, tobacco, and other drug (ATOD) prevention programs and activities.

For more information, call Prevention Network - 1-800-968-4968.

Families And Communities Together
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